692
c.

ABERYSTWITH
AND ITS
ENVIRONS.

27634/B

Aberystwith.

86011

NEW

GUIDE TO ABERYSTWITH

AND ITS ENVIRONS;

COMPRISING

NOTICES, HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE,

OF THE

Principal Objects of Interest

IN THE TOWN AND NEIGHBOURHOOD.

BY THOMAS OWEN MORGAN, ESQ.

OF LINCOLN'S INN, BARRISTER AT LAW.

With Illustrations.

ABERYSTWITH:

PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY J. COX, PIER STREET;

AND TO BE HAD OF

MESSRS. WHITTAKER AND CO. LONDON.

—

1848.

WELLCOME
HISTORICAL
MEDICAL
LIBRARY

TO THE

PRESIDENT AND MEMBERS

OF THE

Cambrian Archaeological Association,

THE FOLLOWING PAGES

ARE RESPECTFULLY DEDICATED,

AS AN HUMBLE ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE DISTINCTION CONFERRED BY THE SOCIETY ON

The Town of Aberystwith,

IN SELECTING IT AS THE PLACE OF THEIR FIRST ANNUAL MEETING,

AND OF

THE INTEREST THEY EVINCED FOR THE RESTORATION OF THE Ancient Church of Llanbadarn Fawr,

BY THE AUTHOR.

PREFACE.

THE contents of the present volume have been compressed to the narrowest limits compatible with the design of giving to the summer visitor at Aberystwith, in a convenient shape, a concise yet correct account of the different objects of interest to be met with in the town and neighbourhood; and in order to effect this, contributions have been levied from all available sources, and advantage taken of whatever has already been written relating to any of the subjects within scope of the design. More particularly does the Writer acknowledge the assistance afforded him in his account of

the Abbey of Strata Florida, from the history of that Abbey contained in a Paper read at the Meeting of the Cambrian Archæological Association at Aberystwith, during the month of September in last year, since printed in the Journal of that Society, and now about to be published, with additions and illustrations, in a separate form.

The account of the Cardiganshire Mines, their history, and present operations, as also that of the River and Lake Fishing of this part of the country, are the contributions of a gentleman in the neighbourhood, fully conversant with those subjects.

With these acknowledgements, and thanks to his friends who have favoured his publisher with their names, the Writer commits his task to the public to await their verdict.

Aberystwith,
August 12*th*, 1848.

CONTENTS.

Introduction	1
Ancient History	3
Town Described	11
Church, St. Michael's	14
National Schools	17
Inns, Hotels, &c.	18
Coaches, Waggons, &c.	19
Post Office	20
Public Rooms	21
Markets—Corn, Meat, Butter, Fish	22
Infirmary	24
Deaf and Dumb Institution	24
Savings' Bank	26
New Hall	27
The Beach	27
Sea Bathing	28
Baths, Public	31
Corporation	32
Workhouse	33
Gasworks and Lighting	35
Waterworks	35
Castle	37
Historical Notices of ditto	38

Rivers—Rheidol ... 56
Ystwith ... 60
Harbour ... 64
Mines ... 66
Llanbadarn Fawr and Church ... 76
Plas Crug ... 86
Chalybeate Well ... 88
Craiglais, and the Vale of Clarach ... 92
Llangorwen Church ... 95
Pen Dinas ... 97
Alltwen Cliff ... 99
Devil's Bridge ... 101
Havod ... 107
Havod Church ... 113
Borth Sands ... 115
The Lost Lowland Hundred ... 119
Taliesin's Grave ... 122
Strata Florida Abbey ... 126
Pumlumon (ascent of) ... 136
River and Lake Fishing ... 142
Sea Weeds ... 145
Directions for Laying and Preserving Sea Weeds 148
Botany of the Neighbourhood ... 149
Tide Table ... 152
Weather Table ... 154
Table of Distances ... 155

A NEW MAP
OF THE VICINITY OF
ABERYSTWYTH,
Including Three Divisions out of Five of CARDIGAN SHIRE, shewing the Positions of Roads Rivers, Coast, Churches, Gentlemens Seats, &c. &c.
By John Evans Penygraig
1824.
PART OF MONTGOMERY SHIRE
PART of CARMARTHEN SHIRE
PART of MEIRIONETH SHIRE
CARDIGAN BAY
ABERYSTWYTH
LAMPETER
WELSH POTOSI
STRATA Florida or Ystrad fflur Abbey
TREGARON
Miles of Latitude North
Miles of Long. West of London
A Scale of Miles.
Plynlymmon Mountain
Pont Erwyd
Devils Bridge
Hafod Arms Inn
Smelting House
Rhos rydd
Rhos rydd ganol
Llanafan
Pont Llanafan
Pont ar gamddwr
Llan-wnws
Pont y ddafarn
Tyn Swydd
Dolvor
Birch grove
Navy hall
Cedrod
Llanbadarn Odwyn
Llangerthe
Llangybbi
St Davids College
Bettws Bledrws
Llanfair clydogo
Cellan
Llanilar
6 Miles
Nanteos
Chapel
Rhodmaid
Aberystwyth Castle
Harbour's Mouth
Penglais
Llanbadarn Fawr
Aberllolwyn
Carrog
Llanddeiniol Moelwor
Ystrad Tilo
Alltlwyd
Llanrhystyd
Llan Sainffraid
Morfabychan
Penygraig
Pierce field
Lanychaiarn
Gogerddan
Frongain
Penuwch
Llanfihangel creuddyn
Llanfihangel geneurglyn
Llanbadarn Fawr
Llanbadarn Odwyn
Llanio
Llanddewi brefi
20 Miles
Foel-allt
Maes ebwydd
Maes y llyn
Ysbyty Ystwyth
Hendre felen
Ystrad meyric
12 Miles
Swyddffynon
Pen Pont
Einon
Llanbadarn Odwyn
Llangeitho
Llanpenal
Tal Hirion Rhos
Llwyn merch gwilim
Llwynhowel
Llidiadau
Heudre Heudd
Castle hill
Handir
Llanygwiryfon
Llynmanod
Llynaeddwen
9 Miles
Llanewnille
Cilpyll
Capel Bettws Lleu
Capel Garthely
Llan Silian
Silian
Lech.
Abermeiric
Felindre
Brynele
Trefilan
TALSARN
18 Miles
Cribyn clottas
Llanllwchaiarn
Ilwyd Jack
Ystrad
Nanty gelly
Bwlchdihewyd
Tri Chrig
Green Grove
Rhos Haminiog
New Inn
Maibys
Gwrthwynt
Brynog
Gelly
Tyn lawn
Cileenin
Ciliau
Ciliau Park
Dihewyd
Wernddu Penant
Tyglyin
Mynachdy
Llanerchairon
Rhyw bren
Mydrolyn
to Newcastle
Llan Dewi Aber
Arth
Feathers Inn
To Aberaeron 16 Miles
Hen Fenyw
To Cardigan 38 miles
Llan arth
Ncuadd Fawr
Llanddewi brefi 20 Miles
Llanddewi Velfrey
To Haverfordwest
To Pumsaint
To Llandovery
To Aberystwyth & Llandovery
To Rhayader
To Aberayron
Llan-wnws
Llanfihangel creuddyn
Llanfihangel geneurglyn
Llanbadarn Fawr
Llanbadarn Odwyn
Llanafan
Llanilar
Llanfihangel creuddyn
Llanfihangel geneurglyn
Llanbadarn Fawr
Llanbadarn Odwyn
Llanafan
Llanilar
Llanfihangel creuddyn
Llanfihangel geneurglyn
Llanbadarn Fawr
Llanbadarn Odwyn
Llanafan
Llanilar

THE

ABERYSTWITH GUIDE.

INTRODUCTION.

To those who for health or recreation seek a summer retreat, where they may sojourn and enjoy for a season the beneficial effects of sea air and sea bathing, the western coast of our island seems peculiarly inviting; inasmuch as the prevailing westerly breezes are softer, yet more bracing than those from any other quarter, and come direct from the ocean, impregnated with those saline and renovating properties so salutary to the invalid, and grateful to the healthy and robust. These inducements have, doubtless, gained with many a preference for the Welsh coast; the general aspect of which is open to the pure and invigorating breezes of the broad Atlantic. In consequence, many of the the Welsh maritime towns, such as Barmouth in North Wales, and Tenby in South Wales, have been selected as a summer residence, according to the taste or inclination of the visitant.

To no place on our coast, however, has a greater degree of patronage been extended than to the subject of the following notices, which, though a place of some importance in former times, had gradually dwindled down to a mere fishing town, and small seaport, until the popular

taste for annual migrations to the sea coast during the summer months, which prevailed about the latter end of the last century, contributed to bring it again into notice, though in a different character, and gave it an impulse towards improvement which has been proportioned to the patronage bestowed upon it. Nor can, indeed, the most cursory tourist fail to admit its claim to public favour, when contemplating the position of the town at the junction of two romantic valleys in the very centre of a capacious bay, into which no large rivers discharge themselves to deteriorate the briny quality of the translucent waters that lave its pebbly shore, and near which float no noxious vapours to contaminate the purity of its salubrious atmosphere, thus affording a delightful combination of mountain air and ocean breeze, whilst the vicinity abounds in subjects of historic interest and picturesque beauty.

To illustrate, in some degree, such passages of the former as are most interesting, and to point out and describe the more prominent features of the latter, for the information and guidance of the visitor, with the addition of such notices as may contribute to his comfort and enjoyment whilst here, is the design of the following pages.

Cardiganshire, in which the subject of this little work is situate, is, in a picturesque and romantic point of view, the most striking county in South Wales: indeed, the neighbourhood of Aberystwith, and the whole northern portion of the county, is scarcely to be distinguished as to scenic character from Montgomeryshire and Merionethshire, upon which it borders. Hafod, and the Devil's Bridge, with portions of the vales of Rheidol and Ystwith, will not shrink from comparison with the finest scenes in North Wales. The towering height of Pumlumon stands partly in Cardiganshire, and partly in Montgomeryshire; and a large proportion of the lofty hills that compose its base belong to Cardiganshire, and branch out into several extensive chains. Towards the west, one branch shoots

between the Dovey and the Rheidol, giving rise to the rivers Llyfnant, Clettwr, and Lery, and other rivers or streams; a second stretches between the Rheidol and the Ystwith, terminating with the hill of Pendinas; another having the Ystwith on the north, and the Teifi on the east, under the name of Mynydd-bach, takes a southerly direction, and terminates at the river Aeron on the south. The surface, therefore, consists almost wholly of mountains and lofty hills, with their intersecting valleys, generally narrow and profound in proportion to the elevation and swell of the hills that bound them: indeed, the upper part of the county no where presents a level tract of any great extent; and the land along the sea coast, except where the valleys open into the interior, is generally of considerable altitude. The higher ranges of the mountains are destitute of wood, which renders their aspect in some degree dreary and bleak; and perhaps the leading deficiency to those unaccustomed to our highland scenery may seem the absence of timber. The sides of the valleys, however, are frequently clothed with wood, and many of the gentlemen's seats present a favourable contrast to the general deficiency in this particular. As the banks of rivers afford the most picturesque scenery, and the most fertile ground, it is proposed, in another part of this work, to follow the courses of the two nearly parallel streams of the Rheidol and the Ystwith from their sources to their junction near the town.

HISTORICAL NOTICES.

In the ancient divisions of Wales, the district within which Aberystwith is situate, formed a portion of Demetia, the Dyved of British writers, called also by them Deheubarth, or the South Country. Its early history is involved in much obscurity; each district was under the dominion of its respective regulus, over which he presided in times of

tranquillity with a limited authority; but in seasons of danger the princes were wont to confederate and elect a supreme governor. This occasional honour was confined to one imperial line. A long list of princes had graced the British throne, when the Romans invaded this island, about fifty years before the commencement of the Christian æra, and Caswallon, or Cassivelaunus, as the Romans called him, swayed the sceptre of the nation. After the subjection of Lloegr, or England, the Romans turned their victorious arms against Cambria, and had several battles with Caradoc, or Caractacus, prince of the Silures. For nine years did this renowned hero, with his half armed, undisciplined, and almost naked troops, defy the veteran legions of Rome, well organised and accustomed to victory, till the fatal battle between him and the Romans at Caer Caradoc, on the borders of Shropshire and Herefordshire, put an end to the struggle; after which he was taken prisoner and carried to Rome in the year 52. Camden says, this county is called Ceretica, which, if any one should suppose, derived from king Caractacus, it will be mere conjecture, not founded on the authority of the antients; and yet we read that the famous Caractacus was king here.

Though history is silent as to the exploits of the Roman arms in this part of the country, several vestiges of the works of that people exist to prove their occupation of it. In the township of Llanio, in the parish of Llanddewi-brefi, in this county, about seven miles above Lampeter, in the vale of Teifi, very extensive remains of Roman buildings have been discovered, which indicate the existence here at one time of a Roman city; and this has led most modern writers to consider it as the Roman Loventium in the country of the Demetæ. The ground, for a considerable extent, is strewed with fragments of bricks, tiles, urns, and earthen utensils. Medals and coins, likewise, have been discovered here; and on one spot called Cae'r Castell, or the Castle Field, have been traced the foundation walls of a building, 150 feet in length, by 72 in breadth.

Mr. Llwyd, in his communications to Gibson's Camden, mentions two inscribed stones which were shewn him at this place. These are still preserved, one bearing the following inscription, C' ARTI' M' ENNIVS PRIMUS, which Mr. Lloyd reads, "Caii artii manibus, [or, memoriæ] Ennius Primus," is built up in the wall of a cottage, and placed near the door; the other, which is inscribed OVERIONI, is built up in the outside wall of a chimney of the farm house. Sir Richard Hoare discovered before the threshold of this house another stone bearing the following letters, CoH. A. GFVP, which he interprets, "Cohors secunda (legionis) Augustæ fecit quinque passus:" it would hence appear that a cohort of the second legion of Augustus was stationed here, and built a portion of the walls of the city.

The city of Loventium stood on the Via Occidentalis, or western road of the Romans, leading from St. David's, or Menapia, to Segontium, or Carnarvon, which extended along the western coast of Wales. From Llanio the road proceeded direct north towards another station at Pennal, near Machynlleth. Traces of it have been discovered on a farm called Brenan, in the parish of Llanfihangel y Croyddin, about five miles from Aberystwith, and on another farm called Llwyn y Rhingyll, in the parish of Llanbadarn Fawr.

There are in this neighbourhood several smaller roads of communication. Many of these are discoverable in the parish of Llanfihangel Genau'rglyn, leading from one mine to another, and probably to that part of Sarn Helen, or as some read it Sarn y Lleng, or Legion,—the causeway of the Legion, which passes through this parish in its way to Pennal. One of these runs from a mountain called Pensarn Ddu, towards the west; and whenever the word *Sarn* occurs, we find traces of a Roman road. Talsarn, in the parish of Trefilan, and Pensarn, near Ystradmeyric, received their names from this circumstance, as did the farms of Sarnau Fach and Sarnau Fawr, in Llanfihangel y Croyddin. This road is in general thirty feet in breadth; the sides are made of

stone, and the centre is filled up with gravel. Adjacent to this road, near Llanio, is an artificial mound, called Tommen Llanio, probably the site of a Roman watch-tower, or place of burial.

One instance of the finding of Roman coins in the immediate vicinity of Aberystwith, is as recent as the year 1841. A farmer living about two miles from the town, in ploughing up a rough and neglected corner of a field, found his plough impeded by some substance, which proved to be a bronze vessel containing Roman third brass coins to the number of several hundreds: these had lain so long in their place of deposit, that they were cemented together in masses by the rust or verd antique, and many were obliterated in separating them. Some of these coins were of the time of Gallienus and Salonina his wife, Postumus, Ulpius Cornelius Lælianus, M. Piauvonius Victorinus, Marcus Claudius Tacitus, Carausius, and others. Unfortunately they were dispersed around the country before any thorough examination and catalogue was made of them. It has been well observed that the Roman coins found in Wales have a special value, in the strong presumption that they are all genuine.

When the Romans bade a final adieu to this country, A. D. 423, after being in possession of it for nearly five centuries, the different principalities in the nation reverted to the government of the native rulers; but the island was now exposed to the inroads of the Picts and Scots on the north, and to the incursions of the Irish on the west. In this situation the Britons, attacked on all sides by inveterate foes, adopted the most impolitic of all expedients, that of calling in foreign aid; and so, by the assistance of one barbarous power sought to drive out another. Accordingly, an army of Saxons, under Hengist and Horsa, in due time arrived. The Saxons having driven out the enemy, turned their attention towards establishing themselves in a portion of the territories they had defended. A sanguinary war then arose between the Britons and Saxons, and was con-

tinued with various success; but numerous hordes constantly arriving in aid of the Saxons, the latter became formidable in several parts of the island. Arthur, so celebrated in British story, for a series of years conducted the war against the enemy, about A.D. 510—17; but a minute detail of the wars of the British and Saxons, which were most vindictive and ferocious, would be foreign to our present object.

By degrees the Saxons had conquered a great part of England, and made their approaches to Cambria; but the contest was continued till the death of Cadwalader, the last of the ancient British kings who reigned in England, closed the imperial dynasty in the year 703, which for many centuries had been at the head of the British government. Roderick Molwynog nominally succeeded to the sovereignty in 790. By continued and unhappy divisions, the strength of the country was so diminished, that it became unable successfully to resist the incursions of the Saxons. The Mercians, under king Offa, frequently laid waste the country, and at length wrested a portion from the Welsh princes; and to prevent the new occupants from the retaliating vengeance of the Welsh, caused that famous boundary to be made from the mouth of the river Dee to the Wye, which still goes by the appellation of Clawdd Offa, or Offa's Dyke.

By this, the territory of the Britons was considerably narrowed, and nearly reduced to its present limits. Though the Saxons made frequent inroads, they do not appear to have gained any permanent footing in the country; so that, while the page of history relates many fierce conflicts which took place between them and the Welsh, and each party, as the scale of fortune preponderated, filled the territories of their opponents with massacre and devastation, scarcely any vestiges remain to mark the scene of these fierce encounters.

The Danish invasions now called off the attention of the Saxons from the Welsh, who, from this circumstance, were

left for many years to enjoy a season of unusual tranquillity. Rhodri Mawr, or Roderick, surnamed the great, succeeded Merfyn in the sovereignty of all Wales in the year 843; and at his death, in 872, divided his dominions into three principalities, amongst three of his sons. Anarawd had Gwynedd, or North Wales; Merfyn, Powys, or Mid-Wales; and Cadell, Dyfed, or South Wales.

The fatal error of this division was soon displayed in the conduct of Roderick's own son, Cadell; who, the year after he had entered on his own government, invaded the territories of his brother Merfyn, and took forcible possession of his principality of Powys. Cadell, however, became in his turn the object of attack; for his brother Anarawd, king of North Wales, who, A. D. 892, led a powerful force into the counties of Cardigan, Pembroke, and Carmarthen, committing dreadful devastations, by burning the houses and destroying the corn. Had the Britons abstained from these unnatural contentions, and united in the common cause of their country, they might yet have preserved it; but this lesson, dictated by prudence and experience, they could never learn; for, whenever they obtained the least respite from their foreign foes, they relapsed into civil dissensions. Thus distracted by intestine commotions, they were unable to repel the attacks of the Saxons and Normans by land, or the incursions of the Danes by sea.

During the Danish dynasty, however, though that people made some incursions on the coast, and compelled the Welsh to pay them tribute, they made no permanent conquest of the country.

On the accession of William the Conqueror to the throne of England, however, in the year 106, the Welsh having refused to pay the annual tribute to the Crown of England, which had been extorted from them as a mark of submission by king Edgar, the Conqueror invaded their country with a powerful army, and quickly awed them into submission, obliging them to do homage, and take an oath of

fealty as due from vassals to their superior lord. From this period, the English monarchs preferred a claim to Wales as their heritable property.

On the death of William, the ancient Britons, feeling the galling yoke of their humbled condition, attempted to recover their lost independence; and joining in revolt with some English malcontent barons, entered England with fire and sword, and carried their devastations to the banks of the Severn. These incursions determined William Rufus to attempt the subjugation of the country; and an incident happened at this time which produced a change in the affairs of South Wales, that proved favourable to the plans of the English, and eventually led to the fall of Cambria. Einon, a Welsh chieftain, having combined with two others in rebellion against Rhys ap Tewdwr, the legitimate sovereign of South Wales, that prince defeated the confederates; and Einon saved himself from deserved punishment by flight, and associated himself with Iestyn ap Gwrgant, lord of Glamorgan, who was also in arms against his sovereign. From a union of interests an agreement was formed between them that Iestyn should give his daughter in marriage to Einon, on condition that the latter, who had served in the Norman armies, should procure a body of Norman troops to assist in their projected scheme. These were readily furnished by the policy of the Anglo-Normans. Robert Fitz-hamon, a baron of the realm, with twelve knights, undertook the adventure. Having succeeded in the enterprize, by completely defeating the king of South Wales, Rhys ap Tewdwr, who shortly after lost his life in another engagement with his rebellious subjects, at Hirwain, Einon, his partizan, demanded of Iestyn the fulfilment of his engagement, which the latter refusing, Einon proceeded to resent such breach of faith, by inciting the Normans to espouse his cause. This they effectually did, and Iestyn was quickly dispossessed of his territories, which the Norman leader parcelled out among his followers; and, after

reserving for his own share the principal parts, with the seigniory of the whole, gave the remainder of Glamorganshire to the twelve knights, to be held as fief under himself, leaving only the barren mountainous parts as the portion of Einon.

In this manner were the Norman Lords of the Marches first established in Wales. The fortunate issue of the late adventure raised among the Norman nobility an ardent spirit of conquest, and William Rufus, the king of England, threw out powerful temptations to their cupidity by the allurements of interest and power. Several Norman barons, influenced by these strong incentives to human conduct, petitioned the crown for licence to possess, under homage and fealty, such lands as they might obtain by conquest in Wales. The policy of the Anglo-Norman rulers readily received an assent, and South Wales was soon overrun by these military adventurers. Amongst the foremost was Bernard de Newmarch, who took possession of Brecknockshire; Roger de Montgomery did homage for Cardiganshire; as did Arnulph, his son, for the great lordship of Pembroke.

In the year 1102, king Henry I. bestowed several other lordships and castles in Wales on Englishmen and Normans; and, for the purpose of still further breaking the high spirit of the Welsh, he introduced into Pembrokeshire, in the year 1108, a numerous colony of Flemings. The Anglo-Norman barons endeavoured to secure their conquests by peopling the territories with English, and erecting strong fortresses to defend them from the inroads of the Welsh.

Thus was the last asylum of the ancient Britons assailed on every side, and the principality of South Wales overrun; still the indomitable spirit of the native inhabitants, aided by the valour of their princes, for a long period supported the unequal contest with these unjust invaders, and often rendered their acquisitions of precarious tenure, till the death of David, who had succeeded his brave but unfortunate brother, Llewelyn ap Gruffydd, in the reign of

Edward I., closed the sovereignty of the ancient British Empire, which, through varied fortune, had opposed the arms of imperial Rome, and effectually resisted the Saxon and Anglo-Norman efforts for its subjugation through the protracted space of eight centuries.

THE TOWN OF ABERYSTWITH.

Aberystwith is situate at the extremity of the vale of the Rheidol, where that river forms the inner basin of its harbour; below this, the Ystwith falls into the Rheidol, and the united streams, protected by a stone Pier, form the entrance to the harbour. The town, therefore, derives its name from the confluence of the Ystwith with the Rheidol. The most pleasing view of the town is the front of the Marine Terrace, as seen from the sea, or by a side view from the Quarry on Craiglais or Constitution Hill on the one side, or from the Castle Hill on the other; though, doubtless, the most comprehensive view of the town, taking in the Church and the Castle, with the Pier and the southern line of coast, is obtained in descending Penglais Hill on the Machynlleth road. Viewed from thence the town appears, as Venice is represented to be, rising proudly out of the sea.

By this approach the town is entered by its principal avenue, extending from the north Turnpike to the Churchyard adjoining the Castle grounds, passing in the way the North Parade, Great Dark Gate Street, and Church Street. This line bisects the town into nearly equal portions; and parallel with it, on the right, lie Portland Street, Little Dark Gate Street, and New Street, terminating in Laura Place: and on the left lie Lewis Terrace and Queen Street, terminating at the Meat Market.

From the southern and eastern point, the town is entered through Trefechan, or the Lesser town, upon the opposite side of the river, by a stone bridge of five arches across the

Marine Terrace, Aberystwith.

and Wesleyan Methodists, the Independents, and Baptists, the Town Hall, the House of Correction, the new Hall, (unfinished,) the Custom House, the Theatre, (about to be converted into a Chapel for the Catholic Mission lately established here,) the Assembly Rooms, Meat and Corn Markets, and the Fish Market under the Town Hall. There are two Banking Establishments, the National Provincial Bank of England, in Pier Street, and the North and South Wales Bank, in Bridge Street, besides a Savings' Bank; an Infirmary, supported by voluntary contributions, the Cambrian Institution for the board and instruction of the Deaf and Dumb, the Union Workhouse, and the National School for boys and girls, with Baths for hot and cold sea-bathing. The principal public works are the Pier, (now in progress,) for the protection of the harbour; the Waterworks for supplying the inhabitants with water; and commodious Gasworks for supplying public and private lights.

The Marine Terrace, happily disposed along the shore of one of those little bights or bays that indent the coast between the Castle point and Constitution Hill, follows the curvature of the bay, one extreme resting on the rocky skare at the end of Pier Street called the Weeg, the other terminating at that on which the Marine Baths are built, near Bryn Diodde. Thus is formed a natural crescent as complete as if the plan had been expressly laid out; its present form was however entirely fortuitous. At first, three or four houses only from the end of Pier Street were built for the sake of a sea view; then, as visitors increased, others were added, and at last, though after a long interval, the whole was completed, forming a promenade that may vie with those of Bath or Cheltenham.

Here is a range of nearly sixty modern-built houses, which are all let for lodgings during the summer season, with the exception of five or six private residences. They are let either entire or in apartments; many of them are twelve-roomed houses, affording every accommodation

for private families. The prices of course vary with the season of the year: in winter, they may be had on very low terms, so as to be a consideration with families who are economising, whether they could do better than select this place when other ties do not interfere. Lodgings without a sea view, can be obtained in various parts of the town, as the North Parade, Portland Street, &c, on still lower terms.

At the west end of the Marine Terrace, and between it and the Castle, is a conspicuous edifice called the Castle House, built by the late Sir Uvedale Price, Bart., of Foxley, in the county of Hereford. The architect was the late Mr. Nash, subsequently so well known as the designer of Regent Street, and other works in the Metropolis. It is a castellated mansion, of somewhat fantastic appearance, in imitation of the Gothic, and consists of three octagonal towers, connected by ranges of apartments. In front of the drawing room is a balcony overlooking the sea: small turrets in character are added at each end. It was originally intended by the owner as a marine summer residence for his family, the late Lady Caroline Price being very partial to the place: latterly it has been let out to yearly tenants, and is now furnished and let in apartments. It is provided with coach-house, stable, and suitable accommodations for a family, and has a private promenade in continuation of the Marine Terrace on the sea front.

Opposite to this mansion are the Public Rooms, which, with Laura Place on the one side, and the Church on the other, form the area of a square, the interior of which is tastefully laid out as a flower garden.

ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH.

In the year 1762, the then inhabitants of Aberystwith commenced building a Chapel of Ease to the parish Church of Llanbadarn Fawr, near the precincts of the Castle. In

their brief, soliciting aid to carry out and complete the building, they state that the town had many years before been deprived of its Church by the sea gradually undermining it; and it is added, that there were several persons then living who had been married in the church-yard formerly belonging to the Church that had fallen. They also say that their only place of worship then was the parish Church of Llanbadarn, upwards of a mile distant from the town, with a very wet and disagreeable road, especially for the old and infirm, who were often, in consequence, debarred from the opportunity of attending on Divine worship. It further added that all the inhabitants without exception were of the established Church of England. To that document is appended a list of paid subscriptions amounting to £225 19*s.* 6*d.*, and another of those remaining unpaid in 1784, being an interval from the commencement of about twenty-two years, during which the building remained a mere shell, and was used for boat-building and other purposes. The total amount of the subscription-list was £399 4*s.* 0*d.* In the year 1787, however, the building was completed. It was dedicated to St. Michael, and was a plain unadorned structure, sixty feet from east to west, and in breadth twenty-six feet, capable of holding between 200 and 300 persons. It also contained a gallery, erected at the expence of Mrs. Margaret Pryse of Gogerddan. The Rev. Richard Morgan, then Curate of Llanbadarn, became the first Incumbent, and continued so till his death in 1827.

The augmented population of the place, and the increased number of visitors during the summer, having rendered the erection of a larger place of worship necessary, a new Church was commenced in the year 1830, and built on an enlarged scale, capable of holding 1100 persons. The funds were raised by subscription, aided by a grant of £1000 from the Parliamentary Commissioners for Building new Churches, and another of £400 from the Society for the Enlargement of Churches and Chapels. The funds, amounting in the

whole to the sum of £3500, were sufficient for completing the body of the building, which is a cruciform structure, in the later style of English architecture, and affords good accommodation for the congregation. It was designed by Mr. Haycock of Shrewsbury, and so planned that a tower of corresponding character might be added at some future period. The gallery, erected at the west end of the Church, contains a fine-toned Organ, by Robson, which was paid for by subscription of the inhabitants, at a cost of £350.

There are two English services on Sundays, one at eleven o'clock in the morning, the other at six in the evening; besides an afternoon service in Welsh at three o'clock, and another at six, which is performed in an adjoining building —the School-house, which has been licensed for the duty, to accommodate those who prefer and are accustomed to the Welsh language. There is also a Welsh service every Thursday evening throughout the year, and an English service every Wednesday during the Summer, established chiefly for the benefit of the visitors, and for which the minister's only remuneration is their free contributions, for receiving which a book is kept at each of the principal libraries. The present Incumbent is the Rev. John Hughes, who is also Vicar of Llanbadarn Fawr, assisted by Curates.

A very handsome Chandelier was presented by Roderick Richardes, Esq., of Penglais; but the introduction of gas having superseded the use of it, it has been taken down. The Altar Cloth was the work of the young ladies of the late Miss Crawley's school. The pews are generally rented by the inhabitants; but there are free sittings to accommodate persons to the number of 529. A stove has been purchased by subscription, and placed in the centre of the Church, to secure it from the effects of dampness. The former Chapel, which stood by the side of the present Church, has since been taken down, and the Church-yard at the same time enlarged.

NATIONAL SCHOOLS.

Between the North Parade and the northern turnpike is the National School, established in 1819, for the education of boys and girls, on the national plan. The School-house was erected on land given by the Corporation through the mediation of Pryse Pryse, Esq. M. P. who likewise contributed the sum of £200 towards the building, and has continued to give £5 per annum towards its maintenance ever since. The other principal contributor is the Rev. Thomas Richards, of Carrog, and Bridge Street in this town, who, more than any individual, has watched over its interests, and made good any deficiency in its income from his own resources. Detached from the School-house, which consists of two spacious rooms, are two residences with gardens, the one for the master, the other for the mistress. Here, and likewise in the old School-house, where divine service is performed on Sundays in the Welsh language, cotemporaneous with the evening service at St. Michael's, Sunday Schools are held.

DISSENTING PLACES OF WORSHIP, SUNDAY SCHOOLS, &c.

However the fact may have been in 1762, when it has been stated that all the inhabitants were without exception of the established religion of the Church of England, it is not so now, and dissenters of various denominations have here their respective places of worship; and however different their modes of worship, our constitution inculcates that toleration which treats with respect the religious sentiments of those who conscientiously differ from us. The Calvinistic Methodists are here, as elsewhere in Wales, more numerous than any other denomination, and have their house of meeting, called the Tabernacle, in Mill Street, near the Bridge. This is now a very spacious building, fitted around

with galleries, and capable of holding a congregation of twelve hundred persons. A large Sabbath School is kept here, and to it belong five branches, conducted by members in different districts of the town and neighbourhood, whilst the congregation support a day school on the British and Foreign Society's plan, in Skinner Street.

The Wesleyan Meeting-house is situate in Queen Street, and the English portion of that persuasion have a Meeting-house in Lewis Terrace.

The Independent Meeting-house stands on Penmaesglas. There is a resident minister belonging to this congregation, and they have an occasional English sermon during the summer.

The same may be said of the Baptist connexion, who have their Meeting-house in Upper Portland Street, with a cemetery attached.

All these chapels have their Sabbath Schools, which are numerously attended.

A Roman Catholic Mission has recently been establshed for the accommodation of such visitors to the coast as may be of that persuasion. They have a temporary chapel on the North Parade; but the building heretofore used as a Theatre is understood to have been purchased with the view of being converted into a Catholic Chapel.

INNS, HOTELS, &c.

The taverns and houses of entertainment are sufficiently numerous, as in most market towns. The two principal Inns and Family Hotels are well known to tourists, travellers, and the public, through the principality, for their superior accommodation.

The Belle Vue is situate on the Marine Terrace, and is conducted by Mr. Charles Marshal, late of Cheltenham; it consists of three houses thrown into one, connected in suites of apartments adapted for large or small families, and en-

joying all the advantages of an uninterrupted sea view. Attached is a spacious and commodious coffee-room; likewise a commercial-room. The offices close at hand comprise lock-up coach-houses, and excellent stabling.

The Gogerddan Arms Hotel, or Black Lion, stands in a central part of the town, opposite the Town Hall, and is under the management of Mr. A. P. Davies, who has added an adjoining house to his premises, as well as otherwise materially enlarged and improved the original building. This house has coffee and commercial rooms, besides several suites of apartments for families. The members of the Gogerddan Hunt have their club-room here, where they meet frequently during the season.

To each of these establishments is attached a well-conducted posting department, and also a coach-office.

COACHES.

From the Belle Vue the Shrewsbury Mail starts daily at seven o'clock in the morning, and returns about five in the evening. The Gloucester and London Mail starts at nine o'clock in the morning alternately from the Gogerddan Arms and the Belle Vue; from the Gogerddan Arms on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays; and from the Belle Vue on the other days of the week, returning about half-past three o'clock in the afternoon.

During the summer the Snowdon runs on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, from the Belle Vue, through Machynlleth, Dolgelley, and Tan-y-bwlch, to Carnarvon, affording tourists the opportunity of visiting Beddgelert, Llanberris, Snowdon, and other parts of North Wales, and returns on the alternate days. There is a branch Coach from Dolgelley to Ruabon, in time to meet the Trains for Liverpool and Manchester. From Belle Vue the Collegian also runs through Aberayron, Lampeter, and Llandovery, to Brecon, every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday,

affording opportunities of proceeding to all parts of South Wales, and returns on the alternate days.

On Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays, the Snowdon Tourist from the Gogerddan Arms to Dolgelley, Carnarvon, and all parts of North Wales, returning to the same house the alternate days. The Greyhound Coach to Shrewsbury also leaves the same Hotel on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, passing through Machynlleth, Llanbrynmair, Newtown, and Welshpool, in its way. This Coach likewise comes from Shrewsbury to Aberystwith on the alternate days.

A Stage Coach to the Devil's Bridge every other day during the season.

STAGE WAGGONS.

Morgan's Shrewsbury Waggon arrives twice every week —Mondays and Thursdays, at the Skinners' Arms, and returns the same evening.

Bowen's Waggon, once a fortnight, to Carmarthen.

POST OFFICE.

The Post Office is conveniently situate in a central part of the town, and forms a portion of the premises occupied by Mr. J. Cox, Librarian and Bookseller—one of the corner houses in the middle of Pier Street—the Post Office being on the New Street side.

The following are the regulations with regard to the arrival and departure of the different Mails, and other matters connected with its management.

	Arrive.	*Depart.*
Letters from London, the West of England, and the southern counties, by the Gloucester Mail - - - -	3 18 p. m.	9 15 a. m.

The box for this Mail closes at 8 15 p. m.

	Arrive.	*Depart.*
Letters from Scotland, Ireland, and the northern counties, by the Shrewsbury Mail -	4 50 p. m.	7 25 a. m.

The box for this Mail closes at 6 25 p. m.

Letters for South Wales - -	6 0 a. m.	6 0 p. m.

The box for this mail closees at 4 30. p. m.

Money Orders are issued and paid between the hours of 10 a. m. and 6 p. m. except during the time a mail is under dispatch.

The Office is open from 7 a. m. till 10 p. m. Letters dropped into the box after that hour up to 6 o'clock, are forwarded by the morning mails.

London time is here to be understood, which is 16½ minutes in advance of Aberystwith time.

PUBLIC ROOMS.

The Assembly Rooms stand at the upper end of Church Street, on an open spot near the Churchyard, having on the north the Castle House, and the intermediate garden of Laura Place to look upon. These rooms were erected by subscription of £10 shares in the year 1820. They are in the Grecian style, from designs furnished by Mr. Repton, and the site whereon they are built, belonged to Col. Powell, whose lady took a warm interest in promoting their success. They were opened to the public in 1820, and consist of a Ball and Promenade room, forty-five feet by twenty-four, fitted up with an Orchestra: this forms the centre of the Public Rooms. It is also the room in which concerts are usually held. At the one extremity stands the Card-room, twenty-five feet by eighteen, communicating with the Ball-room by folding doors. This is used as a Reading-room during the day, and on those evenings when there are no Balls or Promenades, and is supplied with the Reviews,

Magazines, and other periodical works, with a continual succession of London and provincial papers. At the other extremity of the Ball and Promenade room is a small Retiring-room and a Billiard-room, furnished with a superior slate table, by Thurston, with the latest improvements. Under the same roof is a dwelling-house with a bar to provide subscribers and the public with refreshments.

The shareholders are the proprietors, who have the letting of the rooms. Their present tenant is Mr. George Careswell, who has been some years in that capacity, and is well suited by experience to cater for the public taste. It is much to be regretted for the sake of the visitors and the interest of the town, that, since the death of the late Master of the Ceremonies, no successor has been appointed. The Promenades commence usually in the month of July, and have been continued twice a week, and the Balls in the ensuing month. The race and hunt Balls are in general very brilliantly attended, upon which occasion the Stewards perform the Office of Master of the Ceremonies.

THE CORN MARKET.

This Market is held on Monday, in a new Hall, built on a handsome plan in a central part of the town, upon the site of the premises of the old Talbot Hotel, and opposite the present house of that name. A new street, called Market Street, communicates with it. The Market is a pitched one, little being sold here by sample; and a toll of one penny is received by the Lessee of the Market. Here is sold all kinds of grain; wheat by the weight, other kinds by the imperial measure; and this is the mart for cheese, wool, and various agricultural products.

THE MEAT MARKET.

This market on Saturdays, confined to butchers' meat, is

held in a building fronting Church Street: it is of the length of 104 feet by 31 in breadth, erected by subscription in 1824. The stalls are taken from the tenant of the shareholders by the different occupiers. Beef averages from 7*d.* to 8*d.* per pound, mutton 6*d.* to 7*d.*, pork 5*d.* to 6*d.*, veal 4*d.* to 6*d.*, and lamb from 7*d.* to 8*d.* The market is open on other days of the week, and there are butchers' shops open every day.

BUTTER MARKET.

Around the Hall is the principal stand for the sale of fresh butter, eggs, and poultry; though these articles are likewise sold at the cross, near the Town Hall. At the cross, too, and along the upper part of Pier Street, is the usual place for the sale of vegetables, fruit, and garden produce.

FISH MARKET.

The Fish Market is held in the area under the Town Hall, and is well supplied with such fish as the bay affords. These are chiefly whiting, cod, brill, soles, mackerel, and herring, during their respective seasons. The mullet and the bass, with the gurnet and skate, are also found. Salmon is procured from the neighbouring rivers, but principally, and of very superior quality, from the Teifi. Lobsters and Crabs from Pembrokeshire, though the neighbouring tide rocks afford many of the latter. Prawns, shrimps, and other shell-fish, are brought in abundance from Borth, but the oyster is brought from Milford.

FAIRS.

Fairs for horses and cattle are held on the Monday before January 5th, Monday next before Easter, Whit-Monday, May 14th, June 24th, September 16th. The first Monday after the 12th of November, and two subsequent Mondays,

are called Hiring Fairs, where farmers and masters meet for hiring servants.

INFIRMARY.

Amongst the charitable institutions of the town, none claim the support of the public more deservedly than this. Originally there were two dispensaries here for administering medicine and advice gratuitously to the indigent in sickness. On the introduction of the new Poor Law, when medical officers were appointed over districts for similar purposes, the last existing of these dispensaries was closed; but as cases arose not within the contemplation of the new Poor Law, the present institution was established on the 5th of January, 1838, to meet these, under the title of The Aberystwith Infirmary, and Cardiganshire General Hospital. It is situated in Upper Portland Street, and is calculated for the reception of patients from accidents, or acute disorders, and can make up ten, or on an emergency twelve, beds. The affairs of the Infirmary are managed by a committee of the governors, chosen at their annual meeting. Subscribers of a guinea have a right to recommend one in-patient. It is intended to afford every advantage of a sea-bathing Infirmary; and patients from a distance, recommended by a governor or a subscriber, are supplied with medicines and advice according to the rules. The establishment consists of a Physician, two Surgeons, a Secretary, and a Dispenser, who are honorary, with a resident Matron and Nurse. The dispensary is within the building. When originally established, it was proposed, if the funds increased, to build a permanent Hospital; but so little has this been the case, that it has had to struggle for its existence, as it is wholly supported by voluntary contributions.

DEAF AND DUMB INSTITUTION.

The Cambrian Institution for the Deaf and Dumb have

their premises in Pier Street. Recent enquiries have ascertained that there are upwards of 600 deaf and dumb persons in the principality. The disadvantages of the deaf mute, when uninstructed, are obvious. He passes through the stages of childhood, when the opening mind is susceptible of those impressions from without, which exercise so important a sway over the future life and character, in an isolated, unimproved, condition, and is as it were thrown back upon himself, and thwarted in all his endeavours to acquire knowledge, to exert his faculties, to express his wants, to indulge his affections and sympathies. With advancing age his state becomes more and more hopeless, as he finds himself the object of neglect, perhaps of scorn and derision, to those around him. He thus drags on a miserable life, not only deprived of the light of knowledge, and the consolations of religion, but cut off to a very great extent from intercourse with his kind, even in the supply of his ordinary wants. The situation of the deaf and dumb in sickness, unable to express his sensations or his wants, is truly appalling. Under instruction, the deaf mute may be led to the employment of language with the fingers, and thence to the acquirement of reading and writing, and through these means to every discipline of useful knowledge. This, however, can only be acquired by a course of systematic instruction, specially adapted to the case of the deaf and dumb. It should be recollected that the deaf and dumb possess the same faculties and feelings as others, and that they are equally capable of culture; it is only in the means of intercourse that they fail. The principality of Wales did not possess within its limits an institution for this bereaved portion of its inhabitants before the present was established. It was commenced on the 1st of February, 1847, and opened in May following for the reception of pupils. This place was selected on account of its central situation, being on the borders of North and South Wales. The institution is principally supported by voluntary con-

tributions from all parts of Wales. The pupils are boarded and lodged in the house, where they receive intellectual and moral culture, and are trained to habits of industry. Mr. Charles Rhind, the principal, has had great experience in the education of the deaf and dumb, having been for upwards of eighteen years engaged in this peculiar and important branch of instruction; and it is but justice to that gentleman to add, that he has entered upon his duties with a zeal and devotedness that augurs well for the future prospects of the Society.

The institution is open to the public every Wednesday morning, from ten till one o'clock; but governors and their families, and visitors, with an introduction from a member of the committee, may be admitted any day of the week, excepting Sundays, when the principal will be glad to explain his system of instruction, and exhibit the progress of his pupils.

SAVINGS' BANK.

The Aberystwith Provident Bank for Savings is in Bridge Street, opposite the North and South Wales Bank:—President, Colonel Powell, M.P.; Vice-President, Pryse Pryse, Esq., M.P. This valuable institution, established in August, 1818, has been conducted with strict regard to the principles on which it was founded, and has proved of great advantage to the provident depositor, not only in the immediate neighbourhood, but in remote parts of the country, where no similar establishment exists for a great distance. The Bank is greatly indebted to the Rev. Thomas Richards, the principal promoter of the National Schools, for his zeal and assiduity in attending to its interests. During a long period the management of its ordinary concerns devolved upon him and the Secretary, but the Directors and Trustees now take their part with him in the weekly management. Within the first year of its opening the Bank held deposits exceeding £2300. By

the month of November, 1822, the balance in favour of depositors was upwards of £5200; in two years more it amounted to £8653 12*s*. 2*d*.; and now the deposits exceed the sum of £30,000.

THE NEW HALL.

The new Court House at the end of Portland Street is in an unfinished state. The design, by Mr. Coultart, is in the Grecian style of architecture; the front to the south-west consists of a portico, with four Ionic columns, supported by two wings, and flanked by low walls of an appropriate character. The centre portion contains the court for civil and criminal business; the wings contain on one side the Judge's apartments, and rooms for counsel; and on the other, rooms for grand and petty jurors, and for witnesses. The approach to the Hall will be by a flight of steps at some height from the level of the ground; and this arrangement gives an opportunity for the construction of cells for the prisoners, and for the other requisite offices, underneath.

THE UNION WORKHOUSE.

The Aberystwith Union Workhouse forms a very striking feature in the approach to Aberystwith from the north. It is situate about a quarter of a mile from the town, on an elevated and commodious spot. The style of the building is a mixture of the simple Gothic and the Elizabethan. The principal front, which overlooks the town, is upwards of 220 feet in extent, having projecting wings, and a centre building, projecting eight feet from the main building, the high gables of which are ornamented with octagonal pinnacles. Adjoining the wings at each extremity are the children's school-rooms, which are lower than the main building. The centre, which is intended for a chapel, has

a large Gothic window, fifteen feet high, and eight feet wide, the frame of which is filled with plain tracery, and an ornamental moulding round the archway, as are also the door-ways. The windows of the wing buildings are ornamented with Gothic mouldings, embrazures, &c. The chimney shafts, which are very numerous, are built separate from each other, and are of various forms, square, octagonal, &c., and give effect to the building. The roofs are high and pointed, but not too much so, and the whole has a pleasing, rural, and domestic effect. The interior consists of the chapel, which is also used as a board room, and forms the centre of the building, dividing the men and women's apartments. It is neatly fitted up. On one side of the chapel is the clerk's office, and on the other the master and matron's parlour; adjoining these are the store rooms, and the remainder of the front building consists of first and second class day-rooms for the men and women, and school-rooms for the boys and girls. The centre building at the back comprises a large kitchen, pantry, wash-house, bakehouse, &c.; and the back wing buildings consist of the children's dormitories, receiving and bath rooms for the men and women, refectory rooms, and other offices. Each department has a large exercising yard, and at the back of the whole is a good garden for the use of the house. The upper story consist of master and matron's bed-rooms, first and second class men and women's dormitories, lying-in ward, separate infirmary for the men and women. The whole of the bed-rooms are spacious, cheerful, and well ventilated. It is calculated to hold 200 paupers. An excellent stream of water, which flows from the hill above, is conveyed through the building, constantly supplying a large cistern, and then carried off by drains, thus furnishing an article essential to health, comfort, and cleanliness. The architect was Mr. W. R. Coultart.

THE GAS WORKS.

The Commissioners for the improvement of the town, and the other authorities of the place, under the powers vested in them by their local act, having granted to Messrs. Stears, of Stroud, the requisite permission, those gentlemen, in January, 1838, proceeded to form a company, with a capital of £4000, divided into shares of £10, and immediately commenced the works, which were completed by the ensuing autumn. The town is now supplied with lights, both public and private, not inferior to those of any town of the same size in the kingdom; and the public lamp-posts are after a handsome design. The gas-works are carried on in a suburban part of the town; and the house and premises are well and substantially built, and their external appearance not unpleasing, while the gasometer, and other apparatus, are on the most improved plan.

THE WATER WORKS.

Up the dingle near Constitution Hill is the reservoir, from whence the town is chiefly supplied with water. The reservoir and turncock's cottage are completely walled in, to preserve the water from every thing that might contaminate it; and the reservoir itself is of solid mason-work, cemented with Aberthaw lime: it contains about 185,000 gallons of water when full. In time of rain, the surface water is turned under the reservoir, to prevent it from mixing with the clear or pure spring water. Main pipes of cast-iron are laid from the reservoir down the hill, and along the Marine Terrace, and through the central streets; from the main pipes service pipes branch off into all the streets, and from these service pipes the inhabitants are supplied with pipes laid on directly to each house. The town is supplied three times a week, each supply occupying about ten hours, and the amount or quantity of water

supplied 60000 gallons. The reservoir is at an elevation sufficient to form a head of water capable of enabling it to rise 20 feet above the surface of the highest part of the town. The town is divided into two districts, one to be supplied at a time; each district is again subdivided into three by means of stop cocks, so that the turncock, whose duty it is to regulate the supply, may turn the water on to, or shut it off from, any portion of the town he finds necessary. This is found useful in regulating the supply; and in case of fire the whole force of the water may be directed to any particular street; or in case of repairs or extension of the pipes, it is not necessary to shut off any other than the portion under repair. Since the erection of the reservoir, a cistern or well, containing about 5000 gallons, has been erected on the rivulet below Penglais, and above the Work-house, on the Shrewsbury road, and a service of cast-iron pipes laid from the well down the road to the Turnpike Gate, and there connected with the pipes from the reservoir, to supply the adjacent parts of the town when required.

The water works were erected in 1837, by the Commissioners of the town, at an outlay of about £5000, defrayed by a rate levied on the inhabitants, aided by the rent received for the supply of the water.

THE BEACH.

Beneath the Castle, and likewise between it and the high rocks of Constitution Hill, are a series of reefs of subordinate rocks jutting out seaward, and covered by water when the tide is in. Across these rocks the beach extends in curves from one ridge to another; and on the margin of the central curve is situate the Marine Terrace. The beach beneath the Terrace is a gradual slope, and affords pleasant and agreeable walking: it is composed of shingle, or stones rounded by the constant action of the sea, and amongst them are found many

fine pebbles and valuable stones, such as chrystals, cornelians, jaspers, onyx, trap stones, pudding stones, moccoes, and agates. The beach often affords an amusing appearance to the looker-on from the Terrace, as numerous parties of pebble-hunters are seen in every direction plying their self-imposed occupation with bended backs and downcast eyes, to the great benefit, doubtless, of the lapidaries and jewellers. The propitious days are deemed those after the shingle has been agitated by a storm, when a complete change takes place in the shifting materials of the shore. At the same time the ridges of rocks afford the naturalist opportunities of gathering at low water varieties of marine plants, as algæ, fucus, and corallines, abound in their creeks and crevices.

SEA BATHING.

From the sloping declivity of the beach, a facility of bathing is afforded within a short distance of the shore at almost any time of the tide, except only at low water. The ladies' bathing-machines stand in front of the Marine Terrace, and being light wooden structures, are easily propelled to the requisite depth for immersion by the attendant Naiads. The machines are then drawn up the beach by horse. The gentlemen's bathing-machines stand on the other side of the rocks extending from Bryn-diodde, and are fitted up with the same accommodation as those at Margate and Brighton. It is a felicitous circumstance to the bather here, that the water is always clear, so that the pebbly bottom is discernible at the depth of many feet.

As the benefit derived from bathing is great, we shall here offer a few remarks on the subject. The reaction produced on the system after immersion, and the short exposure of the body at the same time to the pure and bracing fresh air is highly advantageous from the chemical action of the atmosphere on the pores of the skin, provided the constitution be in a proper state to render such action

available, and the air be not too cold. In fresh water there is always an inequality of temperature arising from various causes; but the sea is in a uniform state of warmth, and is therefore the best adapted to produce that action and reaction from which the benefit of cold bathing is derived. The salt which the sea holds in solution has also a stimulating effect upon the skin, which it prevents from chilling; and the sea air is likewise impregnated with minute saline particles which act beneficially upon the skin, and preserve invalids of even relaxed fibre from catching cold. Sea-bathing may therefore be used with benefit, when fresh water bathing would be injurious; and exposure to the sea air may be hazarded with safety, even with advantage, when the same exposure at a distance from the coast might induce cold and fever. The stimulus of the sea-water and the sea air obtained in bathing for health as well as for enjoyment, gives tone to the vessels of the skin by exciting them to action if dormant, or to greater action if relaxed; and this invests them with a power to resist the ordinary vicissitudes of the atmospheric temperature, proves a certain protection against cold, wards off disease to a very remarkable extent, and cures a great many complaints which bathers bring with them to the sea coast. The salting principle of the ocean is common salt or chloride of sodium; that is, a salt consisting of chlorine combined with sodium. Chlorine is a general disinfecting agent which acts upon and destroys miasmata arising from putrid matter, especially animal matter. Sea water contains a very large quantity of chlorine, for it shews by chemical analysis four parts and a half of chlorine to three of sodium. This great proportion of chlorine is, however, quite harmless in the form of chloride of sodium, while it preserves its anti-putrescent and stimulating properties. Hence it may be inferred that most of the diseases arising from an impure and relaxed condition of the skin would be relieved by sea-bathing.

The months of June, July, August, and September, are

generally considered the best for bathing in the sea; but the same beneficial effects may be derived in months earlier or later in the season, if the atmosphere prove genial, and the weather be not too cold. For the robust and strong the best hour for bathing is in the morning, just after rising; for the feeble and delicate about two hours and a half or three hours after an early breakfast. Care should be taken not to go into a bath, hot or cold, immediately after taking food, until the stomach has had time to digest the aliment it has taken, because that would disturb the digestion. Persons, even in good health, should not bathe in the open sea oftener than every second morning. Exercise is indispensable for a sea-bather, but it should be taken after the cold bath, never before. Walking exercise is the best, and here luckily the opportunities abound, whether the Terrace, or the Castle Walks, the Harbour, or the Llanbadarn road, be selected as most attractive. Horse exercise may likewise be occasionally and indeed frequently taken, of which the neighbourhood affords endless opportunities. Exercise in a sailing-boat is likewise beneficial, but rowing calls forth too great exertion of the muscular powers and should be more sparingly indulged in. There are always, however, a variety of boats plying in front of the Marine Terrace, both for sailing and rowing, which are hired by the hour or for the trip, as agreed upon.

It is not, however, to be understood that sea-bathing is here represented as an universal panacea, applicable alike to all persons, and under all circumstances; on the contrary, it is to be attended with precautions of various kinds, as applied to air, diet, exercise, the age and habits of the party, and other considerations which tend to retard or promote the benefits expected to be derived from it. As a remedy for specific disease it must be adopted with still more care and circumspection, and should be applied under the direction or advice of a medical man, who should decide whether bathing in the sea or taking the warm bath

be most advisable. It is a prevalent notion among many that the warm bath is weakening, and tends to increase debility: this is an error, as, after great bodily exertion and its consequent fatigue, warm bathing restores the tone and equilibrium of the whole system, completely renovating like sleep the vigour of the body without excitement. When the warm bath is intended to increase perspiration, it is best employed in the evening, when the immersion should not exceed ten minutes, and the party should retire from the bath to a warm bed. When it is not intended to excite perspiration, but only as a tepid bath, any time from three hours after breakfast till dinner time will be proper.

PUBLIC BATHS.

To those requiring the warm or tepid bath, the marine baths at the northern extremity of the Terrace afford the requisite accommodation. These baths are built on a rocky foundation projecting into the sea, called Bryn Diodde, and are defended from the force of the sea by a strong wall. The baths were erected by the late Dr. Rice Williams, an old practitioner in the town, on scientific principles suggested by an eminent engineer, and carried into effect by the public-spirited proprietor without regard to the outlay in accomplishing his scheme. The baths are underlaid by iron pipes extending into the sea, conveying from a pure and rocky source the saline water without any admixture of sand or gravel. The water is pumped by horse power into a cistern, and carried by a conductor thence into a boiler, capable of containing eight hundred gallons, fresh every tide. From the boiler are various pipes leading to the different baths, which baths are six feet long and two and a half wide, lined with Dutch tile, as being more porous and more easily cleansed than marble from the impurities to which they are liable. Each bath occupies one end of a neat room, with a fire place; and there are two cocks attached to every bath,

one conducting hot, the other cold water, which bathers can turn and temper to any degree at their own pleasure. A shower bath, which is recommended by the faculty to bathers of delicate constitution, as less liable to create cramps than when they use the ordinary cold bath. In an upper apartment is a vapour bath. This building likewise contains bedchambers, intended by the projector for the accommodation of invalids, whose state of health might render it dangerous to remove them after bathing.

About the centre of the Terrace, at No. 14, is another establishment belonging to Lewis, the bathing-man, called the Old Warm Bath House, which is fitted up with every regard to comfort and cleanliness, and where every civility and attention is shewn. Warm, tepid, and shower baths are provided on the shortest notice. The keeper of these baths is well known to the visitors of Aberystwith, as he has followed the vocation from his youth. He is likewise a proprietor and conductor of the gentlemen's bathing-machines.

At the corner of Portland Street and the Terrace Road is another Bath-house, conducted by John Ellis. Here are warm or cold baths, vapour and shower baths.

THE CORPORATION.

Aberystwith is governed by a Mayor, four Aldermen, and twelve Councillors, under the style of the Mayor and Burgesses of the Town, Borough, and Liberty of Aberystwith; and, in conjunction with Cardigan, Lampeter, and Newcastle-Emlyn, sends one representative to Parliament. It has likewise a commission of the peace for Justices of its own within its precincts; and under a private Act of Parliament, Commissioners are appointed to superintend the paving, lighting, and watching, as also the supply of water for the town: subordinate to all is a small police body to preserve order. The usual day for the transaction of municipal

business in the Town Hall is Tuesday. It is said the present town was antiently called Llanbadarn Gaerog, or the Fortified Llanbadarn, in contradistinction to Llanbadarn Village; and that the small village of Aberystwith stood to the westward of the Castle, on ground now covered by the sea. This seems countenanced by its charter of incorporation, in which it is several times named as the *Ville de Lampadarn*, and not once as Aberystwith. When the name was changed does not directly appear; but in the grant of the office of weights and measures, in the reign of Elizabeth, it is everywhere termed Aberystwith. The change of its name must, therefore, have occurred between the reign of Henry VIII., when its charter was last confirmed, and the reign of his daughter Elizabeth. Part of its walls were standing within the recollection of persons now living, and were to be seen between the Castle-house and the house formerly occupied as the Custom-house, at the end of Pier Street and the Marine Terrace, and again at the end of Little Dark Gate Street; likewise near the House of Correction, though no vestige of them any longer remains. There were many gates forming the outlets of the town, which even now give name to different streets, marking the spots where they once stood; one was in the street leading to Llanbadarn, called Y Porth Tywyll Mawr, or the Great Dark Gate, another in the street opposite the Baptist Chapel, called Y Porth Tywyll Bach, or the Little Dark Gate, and another opposite the Bridge. The walls formerly extended from this last to a lime-kiln under the Castle walls, and on the other side of the bridge extended along the mill stream to the Great Dark Gate, thence to the Little Dark Gate, and so by the old Custom-house to the Castle.

ABERYSTWITH CASTLE.

One of the first objects of interest to the visitor of Aberystwith are the ruins of its once formidable Castle. These

stand westward of the town, upon a rocky hill, which projects into the sea, and now consist of but a few fragments. Portions of two towers, flanking respectively the northern and southern angles, still remain; and on the north-west is a tower about forty feet high, in which is an arched door-way, grooved for two portcullises. Southward stands a remnant of the keep. The ruins were, in 1845, partially excavated for the purpose of exploring their foundation, and the eastern gateway and entrance cleared of the superincumbent rubbish. During the progress of the work a dungeon was discovered in one of the round turrets, the entrance of which has since been secured by a door, to protect it from wilful injury. A well in the centre of the citadel was at the same time opened, and cleared to the bottom, a depth of sixty feet, but was found to contain nothing of interest, save a few fragments of hewn freestone, probably part of the chapel, and being found to yield no water, has been since closed. Devastation has done its work too effectually upon this once powerful fortress to leave much to the gratification of the curious. The ground plot exhibits an irregular figure, adapted to the site whereon it was erected. The ruins are now, it is believed, the property of the Crown. Mr. Johnes of Havod, who was auditor of the Crown lands in Wales, procured a lease of them to the late Mr. Probert of Copthorn, agent to Lord Powis; and the right is now claimed by his assignee.

An excellent promenade was formed by Mr. Probert along the margin of the cliffs, and the grounds tastefully laid out in walks, with seats at intervals. From their elevated position above the rocks that overhang the sea, these walks afford the visitor the advantage of a sea-side ramble, without its attendant fatigue. Hence is obtained a magnificent view of that line of the Welsh coast included in Cardigan Bay. This vast curve is formed by the projecting counties of Carnarvon to the north, and Pembroke to the south, with the coasts of

Merionethshire and Cardiganshire filling up the centre. From Aberystwith, which is about the middle of the bay, is seen to the north a long irregular line of distance, formed at first by the projecting coast of Merioneth, and then continued out to sea by the long mountainous promontory of Lleyn in Carnarvonshire, terminated by the island of Bardsey.

There is no situation south of Carnarvonshire from which the Welsh Alps may be seen to so great advantage, as from Aberystwith Castle, or the surrounding heights. The lofty hills that confine the estuary of the Dovey, and raise their outlines far above the Cardiganshire range, are surmounted by Cader Idris and its subject cliffs. These, however, are still overtopped by the giant mountains of Carnarvonshire, among which, in clear weather, the sharp peak of Snowdon itself may be discerned, prominent among the surrounding heights. To the south of Aberystwith, the coast of Pembrokeshire, being less curved, and not so lofty as the northern limit of the bay, the line of boundary appears more uniform, and less striking.

HISTORICAL NOTICES OF ABERYSTWITH CASTLE, AND ITS VICINITY.

Cardiganshire was, as noticed in a preceding part of this work, one of the Welsh provinces overrun by the Norman lords, and Roger de Montgomery, Earl of Shrewsbury, did homage for it to William Rufus; but the Norman settlers had to maintain an unceasing contest with the native princes for their unjust possession, until the disastrous overthrow of Rhys ap Tewdwr at the Battle of Hirwaun, and the subsequent death of himself and his eldest sons, left the native troops without a leader to direct their forces against the common enemy. In this situation Cadogan ap Bleddyn, the prince of Powys, a man of bold and enterprising spirit, assumed the sovereignty of South Wales in 1093, and,

having expelled the Norman invaders, took possession of Cardiganshire. Cadogan, however, contrived for some time to keep upon amicable terms with the successor of William Rufus, and would probably have remained at peace, had not the misconduct of his son Owen drawn upon himself Henry's displeasure; on which occasion that king, becoming incensed against the father, sent to Gilbert Strongbow, son of Richard de Clare, Earl of Strigill, who had often petitioned the king for lands in Wales, and bestowed upon him the lands of Cadogan ap Bleddyn in Cardiganshire, in case he could subdue the country. Gilbert accepted the gift; and having drawn together all the forces he could muster, from the unsettled state of the country, soon reduced the whole of Cardiganshire into his possession.

The first thing Gilbert did, to secure his conquest, was to build, in the year 1109, two fortresses, one on the frontiers of North Wales, near the mouth of the Ystwith, the other upon the Teifi, at Kilgerran. About the year 1113, Gryffydd ap Rhys, the eldest surviving son of Rhys ap Tewdwr, and legitimate heir to the sovereignty of South Wales, who, during his minority, had resided in Ireland, made his appearance in South Wales, and was encouraged by Gerald de Windsor, governor of Pembroke, who was married to his sister, to assert his claim to the principality. After some successful enterprizes, Gryffydd led his forces into Cardiganshire, where he attacked with success the castles of several of the Norman lords, and devastated their estates. In this triumphant progress he invested the castle of Strath Peithyll, three miles distant from Aberystwith, then commanded by one of Strongbow's lieutenants. This place Gryffydd captured, putting the garrison to the sword.

Being now in the immediate vicinity of Aberystwith, and purposing the next morning to storm that fortress, he gave his troops, wearied with their recent exertions, the interval for repose. Had he attacked the castle immediately after his recent success, he would probably have carried it by a

coup-de-main; as it was, the governor of the castle, taking advantage of the delay of Gryffydd, sent a message by night to the garrison of the castle of Ystradmeyric, at that time also belonging to Gilbert Strongbow, and before dawn next day a large reinforcement was sent to the castle of Aberystwith unknown to Gryffydd. The place where the Welsh troops were encamped on the night prior to the attack was Glascrug, about a mile to the eastward of Llanbadarn, and their foraging parties are said to have taken some of the cattle grazing within the limits of the sanctuary of the Church. The violation of the sanctuary, or probably the loss of their cattle, irritated the monks of Llanbadarn, and it is stated that their maledictions contributed in no small degree to the subsequent discomfiture of Gryffydd. Next day, ignorant of the accession of strength which the garrison had received during the night, Gryffydd marched out of his encampment at Glascrug, to attack the castle of Aberystwith. Taking his position on a hill which was divided from the castle by a river with a bridge across it, he called a council to determine in what manner they should invest the castle. The garrison, confident of its own strength, very craftily sent out some of their archers as skirmishers, who, by degrees, enticed the Welsh to the bridge, where some of their best armed horsemen were placed in ambuscade to support them. The Welsh, ignorant of the real strength of the enemy, approached nearer and nearer to the bridge, the Normans still pretending to give way. When they came very near, one of the horsemen sallied out, and made a feint of passing over it; but, being received on the point of their spears by his opponents, he began to give way; and in returning, purposely fell off his horse, and the Welsh pursued him over the bridge. The Normans, seeing this, pretended to flee towards the castle, the Welsh, in great force, pursuing them to the top of the hill; but whilst they thought the day their own, the party of horse, which lay in ambuscade under the hill, suddenly

made their appearance, and charging between the Welsh and the bridge, prevented any succour coming to them. The garrison at the same time sallied out, and the Welsh attacking party, being thus hemmed in between the garrison and the enemy's cavalry, were cut off almost to a man. The main body of the Welsh on the other side the river, seeing the strength of the garrison, and disheartened by the loss of so many of their men, abandoned the enterprize, and retreated from the vicinity into Carmarthenshire.

The policy of the kings of England in encouraging the Norman settlers in South Wales, alarmed Gryffydd ap Conan, the king of North Wales, for the security of his own dominions, nothing but the Dovey river now separating the English frontier from North Wales. The strong Norman fortress of Aberystwyth was within a few miles of the confines: Castell Gwalter, another strong place, still nearer; Strath Peithyll, and several others, were within sight of Merionethshire. Thus hemmed in, the prince of North Wales saw that he had only the alternative of waiting the attack of the enemy in his own dominions, or else that of marching into Cardiganshire, and, by expelling the Normans thence, to save the southern frontiers of his own territories from agression. He chose the latter expedient, and despatched his sons Owen and Cadwalader on the expedition, who, in 1135, entered South Wales with the determination of sweeping away every Norman fortress that desecrated the face of their country. The first burst of their fury, as might have been expected, was wreaked upon the Castle of Aberystwith and Castell Gwalter, these being the most obnoxious from their strength, and their proximity to the frontiers of the North. These powerful fortresses, with several others of less importance, they razed to the ground, and spread havoc and dismay among the Norman settlers wherever they went. For some reason the North Wales princes did not on this occasion pursue their success, but returned to North Wales laden with spoil. This retrogade movement was

probably with the design of augmenting and recruiting their forces, for in the same year, they again invaded Cardiganshire with a well appointed army of 6000 foot and 2000 horse; and being joined by Gryffydd ap Rhys and the native chieftains of South Wales, subdued the whole country as far as Cardigan, expelling all the Normans, and restoring the Welsh to their legitimate possessions. Scarcely had his father ceased to reign, A. D. 1137, when Owen Gwyneth, now sovereign of North Wales, in conjunction with his brother Cadwalader, again invaded South Wales, where the Norman settlers, he had recently routed, seem to have again become troublesome. In this campaign he destroyed the Castles of Ystradmeyric, Lampeter-pont-stephen, and Humphrey, took formal possession of the county of Cardigan, and compelled the inhabitants of Pembrokeshire to pay him tribute.

To reconcile the conflicting claims of the South Wales princes by right of inheritance, that of the North Wales princes by right of conquest, and that of the Anglo-Norman party, represented by the Clare family, by right of possession, it was agreed, that Anarwyd, the son of Rhys ap Gryffydd, who had now succeeded his father, Gryffydd ap Rhys, should marry the daughter of Cadwalader, brother of Owen Gwyneth, and that Cadwalader himself, now a widower, should marry the daughter of Richard de Clare. On these conditions it seems that Cardiganshire was ceded to Cadwalader, who, as well as his son-in-law, fixed his residence in Aberystwith Castle. Differences, however, arose between them, which led to the most serious calamities; and the disputes increasing in bitterness, it was at last determined to decide them by single combat. The information transmitted to us by the old chronicles regarding this transaction is very scanty, and we are only told that it terminated fatally for Anarwyd. That the dispute had a deeper origin than mere personal hostility, and probably in Cadwalader's undue adherence to the English interest, may

be inferred from the prompt manner in which Owen Gwyneth interfered to chastise his brother; for the prince of North Wales, immediately on being informed of the fatal duel, marched his troops into Cardiganshire, took Aberystwith Castle, set it on fire, and forced Cadwalader to escape into Ireland.

There is no positive statement in the Welsh chronicles that Aberystwith Castle was, among the other possessions, restored to this chieftain through the mediation of Henry II. though there is every reason to believe that it was, for we find that shortly afterwards, in 1157, Roger, Earl of Clare, his brother-in-law, marched into Cardiganshire with a large body of troops, and fortified the castles of Ystradmeyric, Dovey, Dinerth, and Llanrhystid; and, as Aberystwith Castle was within a line with those fortresses, the probability is that it was then restored to the possession of Cadwalader. But the ravages and oppressions of the house of Clare and the Normans committed in Cardiganshire, became at last so intolerable, that Rhys ap Gryffydd, now sovereign prince of South Wales, resolved upon declaring open war against the English power; and feeling that he had no dependence but on the sword, he drew together all his forces, and entered the county of Cardigan, where, like an overwhelming torrent, he carried every thing before him, destroying all the castles which the Normans had built or fortified.

The Clares had in 1163, immediately before this incursion, regained all their lost ground in Cardiganshire, and had built a castle called Aberrheidol hereabouts. Against this, Rhys ap Gryffydd turned his arms, and burnt it to the ground. He ravaged also all the other possessions of the Clares and the Normans in this vicinity; and, having cleared Cardiganshire of those intruders, marched into Pembrokeshire against the Flemings, and laid waste their country with fire and sword.

After the death of prince Rhys in 1196, the descendants of the princes of South Wales were only called lords, and

possessed no sovereign power. Gryffydd, the son of prince Rhys, succeeded his father, at which period he resided in his castle of Aberystwith. He had not long, however, been invested with his father's dominions, before his brother Maelgwyn leagued himself with Gwenwynwyn, prince of Powys, and attacked him in the castle of Aberystwith, and after slaying a great portion of the garrison, captured the castle, and took Gryffydd prisoner. Maelgwyn then proceeded against some of his other fortresses, and made himself master of the whole country.

The year following, A. D. 1198, Gryffydd was released from his confinement by the English lords, to whose custody he had been committed by Gwenwynwyn, and, being supported by his friends, advanced into Cardiganshire, and recovered all his possessions there, except the castles of Cardigan and Ystradmeyric, which Maelgwyn still wrongfully detained from his brother, though the nobility and clergy proposed an amicable adjustment. Gryffydd ap Rhys died in 1202, and left two sons, the princes Rhys and Owain.

Llewelyn ap Iorwerth, the reigning prince of North Wales, having, A. D. 1208, seized upon the territories of Gwenwynwyn, who was then a prisoner in England, marched an army into South Wales to chastise his associate. The usurping Maelgwyn, deeming himself unable to withstand such an overwhelming force, destroyed the castle of Aberystwith, and that of Ystradmeyric, and his own castle of Dinerth. Llewelyn made an easy conquest of his possessions. He then rebuilt this castle of Aberystwith, which he garrisoned with his own troops, and retained it in his own hands; but the Cantref of Penwedic, being the lands lying between the rivers Dovey and Aeron, he gave to the young princes Rhys and Owain, the grandsons of prince Rhys.

When King John, A. D. 1212, assisted by Maelgwyn and his brother Rhys Grug, succeeded against Llewelyn ap Iorwerth and the other chieftains of the county, young Rhys

and his brother Owain refused to submit, upon which the English monarch ordered Foulke, viscount Cardiff, at that time warden of the Marches, to unite with Maelgwyn and Rhys Grug to compel their obedience. The young princes, wholly unprepared to cope with such a force, sued for peace, and were graciously received by the king, who, on their doing homage, and relinquishing the district between the Dovey and the Aeron, allowed them to retain their other possessions.

The English commander, on this occasion, strengthened the works of Aberystwith castle, and, garrisoning it with the king's troops, held it in his name. But Maelgwyn and Rhys Grug, disappointed probably by the favourable terms granted to their nephews, threw off their allegiance to the English monarch, and laid siege to Aberystwith castle ; and, having with great difficulty made themselves masters of it, destroyed the fortifications which Foulke had recently erected, and razed the castle to the ground. This gave young Rhys and Owain an opportunity of retaliating on their uncles the ills they had suffered from them ; and, under the pretext of supporting the authority of King John, they immediately marched into the territories of their uncle Maelgwyn, and ravaged the whole country of Is-Aeron with fire and sword.

In the year 1214, Rhys Grug, having been conquered and pursued by Foulke, was obliged to flee with his wife, children, and effects, to his brother Maelgwyn, in Aberystwith castle.

In the year 1218, Prince Llewelyn ap Iorwerth being in Cardiganshire, and finding that young Rhys had forsaken him, and put himself under the protection of William Marshall, Earl of Pembroke, marched with the utmost celerity to Aberystwith ; and, as a punishment to Rhys, seized that castle with the domains and lands belonging to it ; on which Rhys made a complaint to King Henry III. of England, who adjusted matters between them at Shrewsbury.

In the year 1238, Prince Llewelyn summoned all the lords and barons of Wales to the Abbey of Strata Florida,

when each of them swore to remain true and faithful subjects, and did homage to David, Llewelyn's son, whom he had named to succeed him, though David did not live long to enjoy the honour.

The unsettled state of South Wales, from the conflicting interests of the descendants of Prince Rhys ap Gryffydd, about the year 1256, instigated Henry III. of England to attempt gaining a firm footing in that principality. Accordingly, he sent thither his son, Prince Edward, who possessed himself soon after of some lands in Cardiganshire; but the eyes of the Welsh nobility being now opened to the English policy, they resorted to Llewelyn ap Gryffydd, the reigning prince of North Wales, and complained of the grievances which they had long endured from Prince Edward, and the English Lords of the Marches, by whom their estates were taken by force without any colour of justice, whilst they themselves were treated with severity whenever they committed the smallest offence, at the same time that they could obtain no redress for injuries done them by the English; wherefore they declared that they would rather die in the field, in defence of their natural rights, than be subject any longer to so cruel and oppressive an enemy. The conduct of Llewelyn on this occasion was equally prompt and effectual, having drawn all his powers together in the space of one week, he recovered out of the hands of the English such of the inland country of North Wales as had lately been ceded to Henry III., with those lands in Cardiganshire which Prince Edward had usurped.

In the year 1277, in the third year of his reign, Edward, now king, having at length obtained great advantages over Llewelyn ap Gryffydd, granted peace on very hard terms; and in order that they might be punctually complied with, built a castle at Aberystwith. The oppressive conduct of Edward's lieutenants in this part of the country soon led to an infraction of the treaty lately concluded; and amongst the principal exploits of the Welsh during the final struggle

for independence, in 1782, Gryffydd ap Meredith, and Rhys ap Maelgwyn, rallied the native forces of Llanfihangel y Croyddyn and Genau'r Glyn, and, assisted by all those of the Welsh party, took from the English the newly raised castle of Aberystwith, with divers others in that country, and spoiled all the people thereabouts who owned subjection to the English. It was in the sequel given up to the crown of England.

Edward having at length attained the long-cherished object of his ambition, in annexing the principality of Wales to the English possessions, by the death of the brave Llewelyn ap Gryffydd, and the execution of his unfortunate brother David, attempted to introduce into Wales the whole system of English government, taking up his residence in the Castle of Rhuddlan. In the year 1284, he instituted a body of laws for the government of Wales, under the title of the Statute of Rhuddlan. After setting his affairs in North Wales in order, he made a progress through Cardiganshire, to settle the affairs of South Wales, and from thence proceeding to Glamorganshire, returned to England, after a space of nearly three years. Upon this occasion Edward incorporated Aberystwith, and granted, amongst other important privileges under the title of the Ville de Llanbadarn, that it should have ditches and walls to defend it.

From Ayloffe's calendar of the ancient charters of the Welsh and Scotch rolls now remaining in the tower of London, it appears that in the eighth year of his reign the castle and honor of Llanbadarn was entrusted to the custody of Roger de Moelys for one year; and, at the same time, Ranulph de Broughton is appointed superintendant and overseer of the king's works at Llanbadarn. In a subsequent year is an order for fifteen choice masons to proceed to Llanbadarn for the service of the king. Some of these documents are dated or tested by the king himself at Llanbadarn. The ruins which we now behold are the remains of the structure raised

by the military genius of Edward, and they exhibit proofs of that style of magnificence, united with strength, so observable in their military architecture of the conqueror of Wales. With all the importance attached by Edward to this fortress, it is not till some years after that we find the costs and expences incurred in the works of Llanbadarn castle were examined and allowed.

Edward did not enjoy an uninterrupted possession of his newly acquired territories. Three insurrections broke out simultaneously in different parts of the principality on his attempting to tax the inhabitants. The natives of West Wales took up arms under Maelgwyn Vychan, and carried devastation and ruin through the English settlements in the counties of Cardigan and Pembroke, so that Edward took the field in person, and compelled the Welsh to lay down their arms. The subsequent revolt of Sir Gryffydd Llwyd did not affect this part of the country.

The next insurrection of the Welsh was that under Owen Glendower, who seized upon the lands and person of his chief enemy Lord Grey, at Rhuthin, on the 20th of September, 1400, when he was publicly proclaimed Prince of Wales. As Glendower's fortune and interest lay as well in North as in South Wales, he, in the summer following, (1401) marched with a hundred-and-twenty men-at-arms, and posted himself amongst the fastnesses of Pumlumon. This position being on the boundaries of Cardiganshire and Montgomeryshire, was admirably adapted for receiving succours from his vassals and friends in each part of the principality. The Norman settlers in Cardiganshire, with the Flemings in Pembrokeshire, hence suffered so greatly from Glendower, that they determined to attempt removing so troublesome and dangerous a neighbour; and, assembling a body of fifteen hundred men, made so expeditious a march as to surround Owen and his forces at a place called Mynydd Hyddgen, in the Pumlumon mountains, before he had any notice of their approach. Here they hemmed him in on

every side, and notwithstanding he could make no retreat without great disadvantage, he made a long and manful defence. At length, finding it impossible to subsist himself and troops in that place, he determined to cut a passage through the enemy, or perish in the attempt, knowing that neither himself nor his men were to expect mercy. Thus driven to desperation, he, with his small force, fell upon the Normans and Flemings, and after a severe contest, flung them into great disorder, which, taking advantage of, he redoubled his attack, and at length put them to flight, leaving 200 of their party dead on the spot. This victory added greatly to the reputation of Owen; and multitudes resorted to his standard, and thereby contributed to make him a formidable enemy.

Henry IV., alarmed at his successes, marched a second time in person against him, and entered Wales about the beginning of June. At this time Henry destroyed the Abbey of Strata Florida, and ravaged the country around; but was obliged to make a disgraceful retreat after his forces had suffered greatly by famine, and the fatigues and dangers they underwent.

When success made Glendower sanguine, he turned his attention to Aberystwith castle, then the principal stronghold of the English in these parts. That great importance was attached to this place may be inferred from the efforts made by both parties to gain or to retain it. Glendower commenced the siege of this fortress early in 1403. On the 8th of May in that year, Prince Henry, afterwards Henry V., who had then the chief command against the Welsh, in a letter addressed to the king's council, informed them that Aberystwith, or Llanbadarn castle, was then, and had been for some time, in a state of siege by Owen Glendower. Soon afterwards, Henry IV. issued an order for payment of £100 to Lord Berkeley, admiral of the fleet westward of the Thames, for the succour of the garrison of Llanbadarn castle, then strictly besieged; and on the 23rd of April,

1404, a further sum of £300 is assigned by the council for equipping five vessels, in the port of Bristol, with new arms, provisions, and stores, in order to relieve the castles of Aberystwith, Cardigan, and other places. But the efforts of the English were insufficient to preserve the castle, for we find it, in the beginning of 1405, in the possession of Glendower.

About this time the French entered into a treaty with Glendower. This alliance was of great importance to the Welsh; it is, therefore, not surprising that Glendower should have signalized the capture of Aberystwith castle, by dating from it the ratification of his treaty with the French king. The document purports to have been signed "in our castle of Llanbadarn, the 12th of January, 1405, and of our principality the sixth." The recall of the French troops, however, left the prospects of the Welsh more gloomy than ever, and enabled the English to concentrate the whole of their power against Wales.

The castle of Aberystwith, or as it was then called, of Llanbadarn, became an object of great importance to the English monarchy; and the value which was attached to the gaining possession of it, seems to have been such, that in one of his despatches the king states, that probably by the conquest of that castle the whole rebellion of the Welsh would be terminated. The English troops, therefore, invested the place, and the siege was pushed forward with great vigour, until the garrison was compelled to enter into terms with the besiegers.

Some of the particulars of this convention may be gathered from a despatch sent by Henry IV. in respect to this siege, the most material passage of which is the following,—"those in the castle of Llanbadarn have submitted to the Prince, and have sworn on the body of the Lord, administered to them by Richard Courteney, Chancellor of Oxford, in the presence of the Duke of York, that if we, or our son, or our lieutenant, shall not be removed from the siege by Owen

Glendower, between the 24th October next coming at sunrising, and the Feast of All-Saints next to come (1st November,) in that case, the said rebels will restore the castle in the same condition; and for greater security they have given hostages. Wishing to preserve the state and honour of ourselves, our son, and the common good of England, which may be secured by the conquest of that castle, (since probably by the conquest of that castle the whole rebellion of the Welsh will be terminated, the contrary to which is to be lamented by us and all our faithful subjects) we intend shortly to be present at the siege on the 24th October, together with our son. We therefore command you to cause all who owe suit and service to meet us at Evesham on the 10th of October." Whether Glendower relieved the garrison, or the English forces were summoned to some other quarter, does not appear; but it seems that the castle was not delivered up to the English at the time stipulated in the articles just quoted.

The respite, however, was not long, for we find that Prince Henry laid siege to the castle, and reduced the garrison to surrender on honourable terms. The agreement of surrender, dated the 12th of September, 1407, is stated to have been "between Henry, Prince of Wales, on the one part, and Rhys ap Griffith and his associates, on the other part." The Welshmen stipulated "not to destroy the houses, nor molest the shipping, should any arrive;" and the prince covenanted to give them "free egress for their persons and goods." The motives by which the prince professed to be influenced on this occasion are, "for the reverence of God and all saints, and especially also of his patron, John of Bridlington, for the saving of human blood, and the petition of Richard ap Griffith, abbot of Strata Florida." Thus ended the last struggle in these parts, which the Welsh made for their independence; and from this period the good fortune that usually attended the measures of the heroic Glendower deserted him, and his power rapidly declined.

This castle was ceded according to the treaty, and continued in uninterrupted possession of the crown, who appointed the constable and officers belonging to it. In the poems of Lewis Glyn Cothi, a distinguished bard, who flourished between 1430 and 1470, mention is made of Aberystwith castle in two distinct poems: first, in an ode dedicated to William Vaughan, Esq., constable of Aberystwith castle, and mayor of the Borough in the reign of Edward IV.; and next, in a poem dedicated to Richard Herbert, governor of the same castle in the reign of Henry VII. The Welsh up to this period had too much reason to complain of the excessive rigour exercised over them by the officials of these castles, and of the rapacity of the English who had settled in Wales.

Henry VII., from the assistance the Welsh had afforded him in obtaining the crown, the title to which he made out in the maternal line by his descent from Rhys ap Tewdwr, was more favourably inclined towards them than preceding monarchs, and granted the principality considerable immunities; yet, in a national point of view, their state was far from enviable. Several ameliorating statutes were passed in the reign of Henry VIII., to exonorate them from the tyrannical oppression of the Lords Marchers; and at length, by a subsequent statute of this sovereign, they were formally united and incorporated with England.

Amongst the Lansdowne MSS. in the British Museum is a petition, indorsed in Lord Burghley's hand, with the words, "contra W^{m} Herle, the Raglarship A. D. 1577. A brife note of the troble and vexacon of three or fower thousand of the poreste sorte of people of the County of Cardigan who are trobled by the meanes of William Herle, an unkind and cumbersome man to his owne country people, who procureth them to be sewed in the Exchequer for a supposed custom or seasse of Oats, which upon necessity hath been used by the constable of certain castles upon their discretion, when rebellion was used in that country, from

the time of Edw^{d} 1st until the reign of Hen. IV. (at wch time hit ceassed, and a rate of xx^{s} by the yeare hath been paid in lieu thereof) and the petition prays that the rent certain shall be payable instead of the discretionary cess or custom."

Doddridge, in his historical account of the ancient and modern state of Wales, written in the time of James I., tells us that "the captain of the town and castle of Aberystwith, his ancient yearly fee was eighteen pounds five shillings. He was allowed twelve archers for the custody of the said town and castle."

The next fact to be stated in relation to this castle is, that King Charles I., in the thirteenth year of his reign, and on the 30th of July, 1637, by indenture, stating that many hopeful mines discovered upon the mountains in Wales, wherein were great quantities of silver, were lost by the unskilful working of these mines, therefore, his majesty, for securing the same to Thomas Bushêl, and for encouraging the poor miners, by a more timely and speedy pay out of their own labours, thought fit the said Thomas Bushel should erect a mint in the castle of Aberystwith, with officers and workmen necessary for the coining of all such bullion only as should be drawn out of the mines within the principality; and that the monies there made should be stamped with feathers on both sides. The different coins authorized by this deed to be struck were to be all of right standard of silver in England, and consisted of half-crowns, shillings, sixpences, half-groats, and penny pieces; but by a subsequent licence, in October in the same year, Mr. Bushel was empowered to coin groats, three-penny, and half-penny pieces.

The first officers of the mint were Edward Goodyeare of Heythrope, in the county of Oxford, esq., comptroller, at forty pounds annually; Richard Hull of London, gentleman, surveyor of the king's smelting-house, and clerk of the irons, forty pounds annually; Samuel Remush of London, gen-

tleman, assay-master, forty pounds annually; Humphrey Owen of Aberystwith, gentleman, king's clerk, fifteen pounds annually; John Cherry Lickhum, porter of the mint, ten pounds annually. Specimens of all the monies coined here are to be met with in the cabinet of the collector; they bear date between 1638 and 1642. In the last named year the mint was removed from Aberystwith to Shrewsbury, in consequence of the distractions arising out of the civil war.

During that unhappy period, the feeling of this part of the country was in favour of royalty; and when the king was pressed by the parliament forces, Mr. Bushel made a noble acknowledgement to his royal master for his previous favours, by raising a regiment among his miners, and clothing the king's whole army, besides supplying him with a sum of £40,000 in his necessity, as a loan, or rather a gratuity.

This castle was early garrisoned for the king, as we find under the date of January 26th, 1644, Sir William Middleton sent a company of soldiers to Machynlleth, who did some harm to some men of Pennal, thence marched to Cardiganshire, as far as Llanbadarn, and plundered Trawscoed (Crosswood,) and many other houses. During their abode at Llanbadarn, thirty of the garrison of Aberystwith, thinking to surprize fifty of the parliamenteers then at Llanbadarn, were repulsed, and some thirteen of them drowned in a mill-pond near the town, whereof Lieutenant Powell was one.

On the 22nd of November, a great company of Sir Thomas Middleton's men plundered some cattle in Radnorshire, and thence went into Cardiganshire, and met 500 Pembrokians at Lampeter, under conduct of Col. Bell, from whence they came to Llanbadarn, and thence to Gogerddan, where they did no harm, Sir Richard Pryse having fled to Merionethshire. They then marched towards Machynlleth, and not far from the town were met by some forces from Merionethshire, under the command of Major Hookes and Sir Richard

Pryse; but these small forces were driven through the town over Dovey bridge; on the other side of the bridge they made a stand, and kept off the enemy as long as their ammunition lasted, and then fled, having lost one man, and some taken prisoners. Then the parliamenteers plundered Machynlleth without mercy, and came, on the —th day of November, to Mathavarn, and killed two men, and burnt the house to ashes; and thence by Llanbrynmair, marched to Newtown.

In January, 1645, Cardiganshire men came over to Merionethshire, as far as Barmouth; and on Saturday night, being the third day, plundered that village, and so went away in their boats. About the beginning of November, in the same year, Cardiganshire men laid siege to Aberystwith castle.

About the 8th of December, Col. Jones of Nanteos, and about twenty soldiers, came by night to Peniarth, and there took Lewis Owen of Peniarth, and Mr. Francis Herbert of Dolguog, who did there sojourn for fear of the parliamenteers, in their beds, and carried them to Cardiganshire.

On the —th day of April, 1646, Col. Whitley delivered the castle of Aberystwith to the besiegers, and his men, about —— or more, came to Harlech, and thence to Carnarvonshire, and thence went to Llanrwst. From thence they marched to Denbigh; and between Whitchurch and the town some horsemen of the castle met with some of the parliament forces, and fought with them, and hurt or killed one captain, and returned.

After the great battle of St. Fagan's, in Glamorganshire, this county was the scene of several skirmishes between Col. Horton, the victorious parliamentarian commander in that engagement, and Col. Poyer, his defeated adversary. Col. Horton having followed the king's forces as far as Pool, in the month of August, 1648, on his return, burnt Havod Ychdryd, Morgan Herbert's house, for that one of his men had been there murdered by Morgan Herbert's

men, but without the privity of Morgan, who was then absent.

In March, 1651, many churches in Wales were empty, without service, and the priests without any thing to live upon. An act under the imposing title of one "for the propagation of the Gospel," ordered all ministers to be sequestered without exception; the revenues of the church to be brought into one public treasury, out of which was allowed £100 per annum to six itinerant ministers to preach in each county. The regular ministers, their ministry, and the tithes of the church, were declared Babylonish and anti-christian. On the 14th of that month there was a battle in Cardiganshire towards Llanrhystid, and twenty of the men of the county were killed.

How long the castle remained as a garrison for the parliamentary forces no where appears; but it was finally by them dismantled, having been apparently first mined, and then blown up, as the huge fragments now visible negative the possibility of its demolition having been accomplished by bombardment from the hill of Dinas. A story indeed prevails, that its final destruction was effected in order to dislodge a horde of banditti who occasionally took up their abode there, and infested the country around.

THE RIVER RHEIDOL.

We now recur to the promised description of the two principal rivers in the neighbourhood, as their delineation marks the natural features of the country.

The Rheidol rises from a small lake called Llyn Llygad Rheidol, or the Eye of the Rheidol, on the west side of Pumlumon, near the sources of the Severn and the Wye. About a mile and a half from its source it receives a rivulet from the east, continuing the boundary of Cardiganshire in that direction from the Pumlumon mountains, being to the north of them, and receiving in

its passage a stream running out of them. A mile further the Rheidol is increased by another stream flowing from the western part of the Pumlumon mountains, and about a mile and a half in extent. About a hundred yards further another rivulet falls into the Rheidol; this also separates Cardiganshire from Montgomeryshire on that point. It rises about four miles and a half to the northward, and receives a stream coming from the Esgair Vraith Copper Mines, and is called Maesnant. A mile further the Rheidol receives a small stream from the south; and not quite a mile beyond, the river Camdwr, so called from its meandering course, falls into it from the north. The length of the Camdwr is not quite five miles, during which it receives two other small streams on its eastern side. Just beyond the Camdwr another streamlet falls into the Rheidol, which receives no other increase for two miles further, when another brook from the east meets it, into which flows another, called Peithnant. A mile further another brook, called Hirnant, or Long-brook, falls into the Rheidol also from the east; a mile and a half beyond, a rivulet from the north-west meets the Rheidol; this is above four miles in extent, and receives five tributary streams, one of which, from the foaming cataract it possesses, gives the name of Gwenffrwd-ucha and Gwenffrwd-issa to two cottages on its sides. About 250 yards further, the Rheidol receives a trifling supply from the west; but a mile and a half beyond, the Castell river falls into it from the east: this also has its bulk increased by five other streams, and flows nearly five miles in extent. The mail road to Rhayader and Gloucester, as well as the road to Llanidloes, passes over the Castell and the Rheidol by means of two bridges at Ponterwyd. The Rheidol now curves in the form of an S, and receives a rivulet from the west about three miles long, having two streams flowing into it. From the confluence of the rivers Rheidol and Castell in a deep and narrow dingle, and the bold and rocky banks of the river Rheidol, a scene secondary

only to that at the Devil's Bridge is afforded. Half a mile further on, the Rheidol receives a trifling supply from the west, and is again increased by a stream from the east, which runs by the Church of Yspytty Ce'nvaen, in the vicinity of which it is crossed by the wooden bridge called the Parson's Bridge, by the Welsh Pompren 'Ffeirad, little more in itself than a log reaching from rock to rock, but in a singularly bold position, set off and accompanied by the exquisite scenery below. Next is approached the grand and tremendous fall of the Rheidol, described with the account of the Devil's Bridge. The river, after passing the fall, and the wild and rocky scenery of Cyfarllwyd, of which the old Welsh couplets say, "rugged as are the rocks around Dolgelley, yet seven times more rugged than any are those of Cyfarllwyd," soon meets with the Mynach, and their junction may be traced in the bottom. The Mynach, or Monk's River, rises on the east side of the mountains from Yspytty Ce'nvaen; and about half a mile afterwards is replenished by the river Merrin, which is formed by the junction of two streams, each issüing from a lake, the one called Llyn Ivan issa, the other Llyn Ivan ucha. The next increase of the Mynach is from a river called Rhyddnant, taking its rise from Llyn Rhyddnant, into which three small streams empty themselves. The Mynach then receives two small streams from the south, and prepares itself for that series of falls elsewhere particularized. The Rheidol, reinforced by the waters of the Mynach, continues its course deep in the bosom of the valley, enclosed by lofty banks, adorned with verdure, interspersed with bare cliffs and frowning crags. About a quarter of a mile lower it receives a small stream falling down from the south west, and shortly afterwards another in the same direction, though a little larger. Within a mile and a half of the Devil's Bridge is Pompren Plwcca: a singularly striking and romantic spot, where it is crossed by one of the simple wooden bridges of the country.

The river hence struggles through vast fragments of rocks, which, in angry and tumultuous roar, obstruct its course. On one side the banks rise to nearly 400 feet in elevation; these are opposed on the other side by inferior cliffs. Through an intervening chasm issues the river, which here forms a delightful cascade. Below the fall, and impending over the pool, is a bridge of the simplest construction, consisting only of a single plank and a hand rail, and the fall is called Ffrwd Ddu. The river thence continues its course down the vale, still bounded on each side by lofty banks, generally well wooded, discovering in many places the levels of the industrious and enterprising miner. After passing the modern house of Tyllwyd, and on the farm of Neuadd, is again a fine fall of the whole river, of considerable height, over another ledge of impeding rocks, with the accompaniment of a mill, to give it character in the eye of the painter. Shortly after, it receives the impetuous Ffrwd from the south, and, about 150 yards beyond, another from the opposite side. Near this is another fall of the river, with a wooden foot-bridge. It now meanders for two miles further, and then receives another stream from the north.

Here, after passing scenes of great boldness and beauty, for the space of six miles from Cyfarllwyd, the hills gradually retire from the river and melt down into composure. The bed of the river becomes broader, and the current more tranquil; and as the explorer is about to enter a more open country, the charms of cultivation become more frequent and apparent.

It is much to be regretted that no carriage road exists up the entire vale of the Rheidol to the Devil's Bridge, similar to the new line of road from Llanafan bridge to the Lisburne Mines, as the beauties of the vale are entirely lost to view after the first six miles from Aberystwith. This line, if accomplished, would, from the romantic character of its scenery, form one of the most picturesque and enchanting drives in the kingdom, there being no less than three cascades, or falls of the whole river, of considerable height,

in its course, independent of the grand falls of the Mynach and the Rheidol at the Devil's Bridge.

After passing Glanrheidol, the residence of James Hughes, Esq., and the modern little church of Bangor, beautifully situated, it receives the Melindwr from the north, which is about five miles in extent, and which has itself been reinforced by another rising near Pembryn. About a mile further it receives another stream in the same direction as the last. About two miles further a stream runs from it, and falls into it again; by which disposition of its waters, the Rheidol forms an island. Near this spot, on the north bank, is a modern villa, recently erected, with much taste, by Dr. Morgan, called Nantceirio; while higher up is Fronfraith, formerly the residence of Sir Thomas Bonsall, and now the property of his family. Hence the river flows on, sometimes in a straight line, and sometimes curving, till it reaches Llanbadarn bridge, whence it quickly approaches Plas Crug, an old palace of the Welsh princes, where a diversion of part of its waters is made to form a mill stream, and thence it passes under the bridge of Aberystwith, and forms the harbour.

THE RIVER YSTWITH.

The river Ystwith has its source among the hills on the borders of Montgomeryshire and Radnorshire, in a place called Blaen Ystwith; the first stream it receives is the Duliw, which rises in a mountain about a mile from Llyn Ivan Ucha, one of the heads of the Merrin river. It separates part of Montgomeryshire from Cardiganshire, and continues to do so for about seven miles, and then turns inwards to Cardiganshire. Here it receives a tributary stream, and about a mile and three quarters further on falls into the Ystwith. At the confluence, an elegant stone bridge was erected by Mr. Johnes. The Ystwith continues its course between tremendous mountains, cutting a narrow channel for itself through its rocky bed, till it

reaches Pentre Briwnant, where it receives the Briw brook on one side, and another stream on the other. It now approaches Havod: two streams, forming the eastern boundary of that place, fall into it, one on the north, and the other on the south side. In its passage through these grounds it meets with two more streams from the south, the westernmost forming the western boundary of Havod on that side of the Ystwith. Half a mile below the last-mentioned stream another from the north flows into the Ystwith about half a mile, forming the other part of the western boundary of Havod. It continues its course for half a mile further, when it is crossed by the stone bridge called Pont-rhyd-y-Groes; about 200 yards to the west of which another rivulet falls into it, taking its rise not far distant from the other, and curving in an opposite direction. This has two tributary streams. The river now takes a southerly direction, passing the mine works of Log y Las, where its channel becomes more rocky and confined, and its stream more turbulent. Here a vast perpendicular rock, called Craig Colommenod, or the Doves' Rock, white with lichens, its chasms occupied with overhanging shrubs, and its base completely concealed by woods descending to the brink of the river, at a great depth below, opposes the course of the stream, which has to force its passage through the solid rocks. A considerable cascade here occurs. It is difficult to describe the picturesque effect of the river, broken by projecting cliffs, the craggy valley, the overshadowing trees, the resounding waterfall, the bold amphitheatre of the woody hills in the more distant prospect, and the towering mountains that bound the whole.

The river now turns at nearly right angles towards the west, and flows between lofty banks on both sides. Here it receives a brook called Nant y Quarrel, or Quarry Brook, which divides its southern bank, and flows in extent about three miles. It next passes the bridge of Llanafan, which, like the others on this river, consists of a single arch, built of stone.

A new line of road on the southern bank of the river, from the Lisburne Mine Works to the bridge of Llanafan, formed at the expence of Messrs. Taylor and Company, has opened this part of the valley to the access of parties visiting Havod, or returning from thence, and which had hitherto been inaccessible to carriages. The road is a private one, but permission is never refused by the liberal-minded projectors to parties wishing to avail themselves of it in order to diversify their route to or from Havod. Some of the finest river scenery in the neighbourhood is here disclosed to view.

A mile and three quarters from Llanafan the Ystwith receives two brooks, whose mouths are exactly opposite to each other; the smaller comes from the north, the other from the south. This last is called Crognant, and runs down the mountains between Llanwnnws and Lledrod. The Ystwith having made an angle just at the stream it met with after flowing under Llanafan bridge, runs towards the north-west; and the next stream that falls into it after the Crognant comes from the westward. Just below is a ford called Rhyd-y-Ceir, used by people passing between Llanilar and Llanafan.

At this point, the northern bank of the Ystwith is adorned by the noble park and luxuriant farm of the Earl of Lisburne at Crosswood; and on the southern side is Birchgrove, the residence of the Hon. William Vaughan. A mile beyond the last mentioned stream comes another rivulet from the north east, which, rising a little above Rhosrhyd Ucha, comes down a dingle called Cwm Magwr; and about a mile from its embouchure at Abermagwr, it receives a brook three miles in extent. About two miles further the Ystwith receives another rivulet from the north-east, which rises a little to the north of the high road from the Devil's Bridge to Aberystwith, between the 8th and 9th mile stones. This receives five tributary streams, and flows through the village of Llanvihangel y Croyddin.

The next stream the Ystwith receives comes from the south, after passing on the southern bank Llidiarde, the seat of George Williams Parry, Esq., and the grounds of Castle Hill, so called from an old fortification above the residence of Mrs. Williams. This stream forces its passage through a cleft it has made in the mountains by its impetuosity, and falls into the Ystwith at the village of Llanilar. About two miles beyond, it is reinforced by a trifling contribution from the north ; and a little further by a larger stream from the south, which has been made by the union of two smaller rivulets : the main stream is called the Maide ; and at its confluence with the Ystwith stands Abermaide, once the residence of the Johnes family, afterwards the property of Col. Gatacre, and now by purchase belonging to the Earl of Lisburne.

Here the Ystwith and its valley assumes a most picturesque appearanc: two miles further it receives another brook, called Llolwyn, from the south, over which, as well as the Maide, is a stone bridge. On the road from Llanilar, upon an eminence between that and the Cardigan road, is Aberllolwyn, the residence of Major Richardes. About half a mile further, on the Ystwith, stands Llanychaiarn bridge, where the sinuosities of the river in its course towards the sea, with the high banks on either side, contribute to give it a most picturesque appearance ; while the lower bank is occupied by the unpretending little church of Llanychaiarn, nearly opposite the mill and farm of Penygraig.

Two trifling streams afterwards empty themselves into the Ystwith from the south-west, when, wending its course past Tan-y-castell, it receives the tributary Paith at Rhyd-y-velin, and thence takes its course round the base of Pendinas hill, and falls into the Rheidol a little above where that river meets the sea, and gives its name to the town of Aberystwith.

ABERYSTWITH HARBOUR.

In the year 1780, the inhabitants of Aberystwith obtained an Act of Parliament, 20 Geo. III. cap. 26, to "repair, enlarge, and preserve" their port. The harbour appears to have been in a very bad state at that time, and is described in the act as in great danger of being lost or destroyed; a bank of sand at the mouth is represented as the great cause of injury to the trade of the port. Under the act the trustees and their successors are empowered to levy duties upon articles landed within the limits of the port, and to borrow on tallies of £50 each, a sum not exceeding £4000, upon the credit of the harbour dues, in order to carry into effect the improvement of the harbour. It also vests in the trustees all waste or common land between the bridge at Aberystwith and the sea on both sides of the harbour, to the distance of forty feet from high-water mark. In virtue of these powers, about the year 1806, a pier was attempted to be built on the low ridge of rocks called the Weeg, at the end of Pier Street, as a refuge for fishing-boats; but it appears to have been designed on too small a scale to be efficient; and having been constructed with dry stone, has long since disappeared, leaving a standing debt of £825.

A subsequent Act of Parliament was obtained, 6 Geo. IV, cap. 41, to "alter and amend the previous act, with power to borrow any sum not exceeding £20,000" on the credit of a new scale of tolls, for the same object as the prior act.

In the year 1830, the trustees consulted the late Mr. Alexander Nimmo, the eminent Engineer, upon the state of the harbour, who had a survey taken, reported his opinion on its condition, and suggested a course of improvement for the future. At his death, upon the recommendation of His Grace the Duke of Newcastle, then owner of Havod, the trustees selected the late Mr. George Bush as their Engineer, who likewise surveyed the harbour, and reported his opinion thereon, which agreed in the main with his

predecessor's views. Under his superintendence, and the more immediate management of the present resident engineer and harbour master, Mr. Page, the present works were commenced in 1836, and carried on at a cost of above £12,000 to the trust, aided by a private subscription of above £3000, to which the Duke of Newcastle was a donor of £1000, the County and Borough Members £500 each, and several of the neighbouring gentry of various other sums.

The harbour is formed by the estuary of the river Rheidol before it is joined by the Ystwith, and is protected and covered on the seaward or western side by a spit or beach of shingle, called the Rô fawr, extending southward from the castle towards the mouth of the Rheidol for 500 yards. Between the bridge of Aberystwith and Penhukin, near the spot where the Ystwith joins the Rheidol, there are about twenty acres of land covered with water at high tide. The Rheidol, in entering the harbour through the bridge, sets directly across to the opposite side; and there meeting with the spit is turned at right angles to its general course, and finds a channel along the western side of the harbour to Penhukin point. Another channel for tide water extends from the new coal-wharf along the southern side of the harbour under the cliff at Pen-yr-anchor, and, having been deepened by excavation, affords the greatest depth of water for shipping; and here the greater portion of the trade of the place is carried on in loading and unloading cargoes. As the river narrows, a deep run takes place above the new storehouses for two hundred yards to the junction of the Ystwith, when these two rivers flow together and maintain one common outfall through the beach into the sea, the Ystwith having been diverted from its original outfall, and turned into the Rheidol, to act more efficiently with that river in scouring the bar, by a cutting through Penhukin point made many years ago.

The Ystwith drains about sixty square miles of country, and runs a course of above twenty miles. The Rheidol

drains about seventy-five square miles, and runs a course of about twenty-five miles. The latter river having a larger and deeper basin for tide water than the former, seems generally to have the greater power in directing the united streams across the beach; and the tide flows up the Rheidol nearly a mile. These two rivers, like all mountain streams, are liable to sudden and violent freshes or floods, during rainy seasons, and a great quantity of slate gravel and other earthy matter is brought down the rivers by such freshes. The outfall of the two rivers has a bank or bar of shingle at its mouth, which has been supplied from two sources; *first*, the detritus and debris brought down the rivers by the force of the currents during the freshes, the progress of which matter naturally becomes arrested where the velocity of the current is diminished, at the outfall into the sea; *next*, the prevailing winds being westerly or south-westerly, the coast of Aberystwith lies exposed in that direction to the whole fury of the western ocean. This action of the winds and waves, by degrees, wears away the cliff to the southward, and by that process forms the shingle or beach which abounds on this coast. During south-westerly gales of wind, the sea urges this beach forward to the northward in a shifting mass, which again is deposited whenever it meets with a check. From these two sources of supply, the gravel brought down the rivers, and the beach accumulated and thrown up by the action of the sea and tides and there deposited, the bar is formed, which, with the frequent shifting of the course of the rivers, influenced by the contending agencies of sea, tide, winds, and freshes, sometimes altogether obstructs the entry to or departure from the harbour of the smallest class of shipping. To meet these difficulties, and improve the harbour, Mr. Nimmo suggested, and Mr. Bush carried into effect, the present substantial stone pier or mole on the south side of the outfall of the united rivers, to protect that outfall against the swell of the ocean, and to preserve the channel of the united streams in a permanent position.

The pier extends in a direction N. N. W. from the high water point of the beach of the Ystwith, towards Bardsey Island: its present length (1848) is two hundred and sixty yards, and when it is extended forty yards further, it is to be rounded off at the extremity, and protected with a glacis. As much as has been finished has been surmounted by a parapet wall, six feet high and three feet thick, and the top paved with flag stones. The next object of the Engineer, after protecting the entrance of the harbour, was to preserve the spit that covers the interior of the harbour from the attacks of the sea from without, and from the effects of the freshes within, in wearing away or undermining that natural bulwark of the haven; for which purpose the level of the beach in that part has been raised to the height of ten feet above ordinary spring tides, and groins, or short jetties, have been thrown out at intervals along the sea side of the spit, constructed so as to guide and form the beach to the proper slope for resisting the force of the sea, and the end of the spit secured by piles of wood laden with stone to prevent it from the attacks of the sea. Preliminary to these works a road had been cut through the rock at Penhukin, and a convenient bridge erected across the Ystwith, a little above its mouth, to communicate with the pier. An embankment was formed from the bridge to the rocky point called the Alltwen, on the south side of the bay, where the quarries are situate from which those masses of rock were raised to form the pier; an iron tram road laid upon the embankment, waggons and implements provided, carpenters and smith shops erected, and the main work of the pier commenced in 1836; it has since been carried on and completed to within forty yards of the plan proposed. Here, however, to the great regret of every lover of national improvement, the work has been brought to a stand for want of funds, leaving all the wharfage, and most of the contemplated improvement, and for securing the interior of the harbour from the effect of freshes, untouched or unfinished.

The harbour of Aberystwith, however, in consequence of what has been already effected, has within the last ten years been most materially improved, as the pier has stopped the progress of the beach northward, and deposited it at the back of the pier: it has guided the rivers into a proper channel, and so far deepened that channel, and removed the bar, that, instead of having only nine or ten feet of water at spring tides, it has obtained that height at neap tides; and instead of vessels having to wait in the bay during the neap tides, it affords a safe and accessible port of refuge to vessels driven into the bay by stress of weather, while, to render them every aid, a powerful capstan has been erected on the pier, with ropes, and a storehouse complete. About 400 yards to seaward, off the end of the pier, are two large transporting buoys, that vessels may moor to, or warp out in adverse winds, whilst every facility is afforded vessels making or leaving the port by signals, or else by lights at tide times. Within the period from which the works were commenced to this present time, the amount of receipts for harbour dues and other fiscal charges, from the still increasing number and burden of the ships frequenting it, has increased progressively. Before the first-mentioned period, the tolls were let for about £260 a year, and at the last letting this year, they were let for £1215.

The principal exports are lead ore and black-jack, or blende, for Bristol, or the ports on the river Dee; also, a small quantity of copper ore, for Swansea; oak bark for Newry, and other parts of Ireland; and poles of oak and other kinds for the iron works in Glamorganshire and Monmouthshire. The imports consist of timber from North America and the Baltic; from the latter hemp is also imported. Shop goods, and other merchandize, from Liverpool, Bristol, and London, to and from which places are regular traders. Coal from Newport, Llanelly, and other ports on the Bristol Channel, and from those on Chester river; slates and slabs from Bangor, Carnarvon, and the

river Dovey; flaggings from Cardigan; bricks and earthenware from Bideford and Bridgewater; grain from London, Yarmouth, and Poole; salt fish from the Isle of Man, and Cornwall; and limestone from Milford and Redwharf. A great quantity of the latter article is used not only for building purposes, but likewise as manure or compost for the land. Vessels frequenting or visiting the port can be supplied with every requisite for repairing or refitting, there being two ship-building establishments, an old-established ropewalk, with a sail-maker, chain-cable and anchor-smith, and oar and block manufacturers. The markets are well supplied, and sea stores easily procured. The number of vessels registered at the port of Aberystwith, up to the year ending the 31st of December, 1847, was 164, and their tonnage 9,000, employing upwards of 700 seamen, men and boys.

In the year 1757, Aberystwith was a creek under Aberdovey, at which place the Custom-house then was, and both places were under Milford as the head-port. Subsequently, about the year 1762, the two first-mentioned places changed their relative positions, and Aberdovey became the creek, and Aberystwith the principal member under Milford, and the Custom-house was at the same time transferred to Aberystwith. Subsequently it was formed into an independent port. The present Custom-house is conveniently situate, overlooking the harbour. By a Treasury warrant, dated the 6th of November, 1847, the limits of the port are extended so as to include all creeks and havens from New Quay head to the north bank of the river Dysynni, beyond Towyn, Merionethshire. This measure, by including the additional creeks of New Quay and Aberaeron, will eventually double the number of ships and mariners attached to the port.

THE MINES.

There are in Cardiganshire about seventy Lead Mines, all of which have at some period been worked; and there are

known to be very many discoveries of ore, which the unwillingness of either the tenant or his landlord to have the land broken up has in some cases effectually concealed, and in all rendered abortive the applications and proposals of adventurers for leave to work. The Rev. Walter Davies who, in 1815, published a work on the "Agriculture and Domestic Economy of South Wales," whilst describing the treasures of the different counties, "reserves," as he says, "Cardiganshire to the last, as a cornucopia, (celebrated for ages for its riches in silver as well as lead), to decorate the conclusion of his mineral section." He then gives an anecdote corroborative of what has just been stated as to the concealment of mineral discoveries, and the fact will at least shew that there is some scope in this county even for the hundred-headed speculator of the present day. "During conversation, a Cardiganshire gentleman observed, 'how niggardly nature had bestowed her blessings upon his native county.' We endeavoured to frame an apology for nature; and among other instances of her liberality, mentioned the Silver and Lead Mines. 'Oh!' he exclaimed, 'that is a curse and not a blessing; the mines enrich a person or two in an age, and entail poverty on hundreds for generations to come, and the waters from them spread sterility over the adjacent fields, and kill all the fish in the rivers.'"

However correct this gentleman's remarks may be, some concise sketch of the history of the Cardiganshire mines, which, during three centuries, have exercised the pens of proprietors, baronets, miners, historians, tourists, lawyers, and poets,* may not be deemed uninteresting.

That the mines were worked by the Ancient Britons and Romans is beyond question, but a discussion of the proof would be too elaborate an affair for the confined pages of the present production; let us therefore descend to a later period,

* Sir John Pettus, Sir Humphrey Mackworth, Thomas Bushel, Esq., Waller, Yalden, Watson, Malkin, Meyrick, &c.

and begin with the reign of Elizabeth, when metallurgy and other useful arts began in a special manner to be noticed and encouraged by that queen's enlightened ministry. For the furtherance of arts in which natives were no great adepts, foreigners were politically introduced and admitted as co-partners, to conduct the affairs, and to share the profits, of different concerns. In 1563, letters patent were granted to Thomas Thurland and Daniel Houghsetter, two Germans, giving them all the mines-royal of gold, silver, copper, and quicksilver, within several specified counties of England, and the principality of Wales. In 1567, these letters patent became the ground work of a corporation entitled "The Society for the Mines Royal," at the head of which were the Earls of Leicester and Pembroke, Lord Mountjoy, &c., in all twenty-four: under these, Houghsetter was deputy governor, and Thurland first assistant. The most eligible of the Cardiganshire mines were worked for some length of time at the expence and for the profit of this society, but the whole of these were at last rented to Sir Hugh Middleton at the low annual sum of £400. His judicious management effected so great an alteration that his monthly profit from Cwmsymlog alone, has been estimated at £2000. His great scheme of bringing the New River to London was the result of this success, and he too liberally annihilated in the service of an ungrateful population, the princely fortune he had acquired by his abilities in Cardiganshire, an "honourable mention of his name" after his death, being all that was bestowed upon him. The next lessees of these royal mines, were Sir Francis Godolphin and Thomas Bushel, Esq. The latter is represented as having once been the faithful servant of Sir Thomas Bacon, the father of experimental philosophy, described by Pope as the "greatest, brightest, and meanest of mankind;" however, that Mr. Bushel should be called the *faithful* servant of such a man is no mean compliment. His profits after Sir Francis Godolphin's death rose superior to those of any former period, and in 1637, Charles I. granted

a license to coin the silver from the mines at Aberystwith. The coinage consisted of pennies, twopences, sixpences, shillings, and half crowns, which were distinguished by having the ostrich feathers, the arms of the principality, stamped upon them. Mr. Bushel subsequently supplied the king with £40,000 towards the payment of his troops: he also clothed the army, and when the tide of rebellion raged still more furiously, to use the words of Fuller, "he con-"verted the mattocks of his miners into spears, and their "shovels into shields, formed them into a regiment, and "commanded them in person, in defence of a cause too "desperate for recovery." It seems probable he did not survive the restoration of Charles II, for then these mines became the property of a company of which Sir John Pettus, the author of Fodinæ Regales, was a member. He somewhere states, when enumerating some of the mines, "these "are the chief which produce silver now in working, though "not effectually; and by negligence herein we lose a million "of money a year." From what calculation he arrived at such a conclusion, is difficult now to say, but at all events it proves that the Cardiganshire mines were then, as now, looked upon as sources of unbounded wealth. Mines "Royal" were the prerogative of the crown, being all those whose lead yielded silver sufficient to pay the expence of extracting it, and continual and vexatious law-suits between the proprietors and the patentees of the crown were the consequence. In 1690, a very rich mine was discovered, scarcely covered with moss, at Bwlch-esgair-hir, the property of Sir Carbery Pryse. The patentees claimed it as a mine royal, and the question was decided at Westminster Hall. The patentees produced proof in court, that the lead of the mine in dispute contained silver to the amount of sixty ounces troy in every ton, whilst Sir Carberry on the other hand, produced proof equally substantiated, of lead in the same mine producing only forty-eight ounces of silver in a ton. Fortunately for the proprietor he had engaged the

Duke of Leeds, and other men of power, as partners in his newly-discovered Potosi; by whose interest was procured the celebrated act of the 6th of William and Mary, entitled, an act to prevent disputes and controversies concerning royal mines. This act vested minerals in the proprietors of the soil, reserving the right of pre-emption in the crown, at fixed prices according to the value of the ores. It is said that Sir Carbery was so exhilarated by the passing of this act, so favourable to the liberty of the subject, that, by relays of horses, he rode from London to his mines at Esgair Hir in forty-eight hours—an extraordinary feat, considering the state of the roads at that time.

About the close of the seventeenth century, Waller, agent to the company of mine adventurers in England, published a pamphlet for the information of his employers. His estimate of the profit of one vein is as follows,—

	£	£
10,000 tons of lead may be raised per year worth at £9 per ton		90,000
Expence of raising, washing, carriage, smelting, &c.	18,375	
Incidental expences	1125	
		19,500
Clear profit		£70,500

The mines flourished until about 1744. From that period until within the last twenty years hardly any thing was done; at present, however, from the great returns which are being made from all such as are worked with spirit, public attention is very justly awakened to their value.

The Cardiganshire mines are chiefly in the immediate vicinity of Aberystwith, of which three or four are copper, the rest lead. Of these only sixteen are in work, and of the remainder it may safely be asserted, that as little is known of their value, as of the time when they were discovered, or

when they were abandoned. Most of them are comprised in the following list.

No.	Name of Mine.	Nature of Ore.	State.	Proprietors.
1	Cefn Maesmor	copper	unworked	
2	Esgair Vraith	ditto	ditto	
3	Esgair Hir	silver lead	worked	Messrs. Roskell, Williams, & Co.
4	Ynys Hir	lead	unworked	
5	Tre'rddol	ditto	ditto	
6	Ynys Cynvelin	ditto	ditto	
7	Talybont	ditto	ditto	Messrs. Roskell & Co.
8	Moel Goch	ditto	ditto	
9	Pempompren	ditto	worked	Messrs. Taylor & Co.
10	Ystrad Einon	ditto	ditto	
11	Eurglawdd	ditto	ditto	
12	Tynant	ditto	ditto	
13	Henfwlch	ditto	ditto	Messrs. Roskell & Co.
14	Gwinllan	ditto	ditto	
15	Bwlchglas	ditto	ditto	
16	Llanerchclwydau	ditto	ditto	
17	Cefngwyn	ditto	ditto	
18	Tirymyneich	ditto	ditto	
19	Penycefn	ditto	ditto	Philip River, Esq.
20	Darrenfawr	silver lead	ditto	Messrs. Taylor & Co.
21	Cwmsymlog	ditto	unworked	ditto
22	Goginan	ditto	worked	ditto
23	Level yr Ych	ditto	ditto	ditto
24	Cefnllwyd	ditto	ditto	A party of miners
25	Cwmsebon	ditto	ditto	John Horridge, Esq.
26	Cwmervin	ditto	ditto	T. P. Thomas, Esq.
27	Bwlch Cwmervin	ditto	ditto	Messrs. Law, Tredennick, & Co.
28	Ceunant	ditto	ditto	ditto
29	Pencraig-ddu	ditto	ditto	ditto
30	Pwll yr Ynad	ditto	ditto	ditto
31	Llawrcwmbach	ditto	ditto	ditto
32	Dyffryn Castell	blende	unworked	

No.	Name of Mine.	Nature of Ore.	State.	Proprietors.
33	Brynglas	lead	worked	Messrs. Roberts & Co.
34	Bog	ditto	ditto	Messrs. Taylor & Co.
35	Llywernog	ditto	unworked	
36	Cefn-cwmbrwynog	ditto	worked	Messrs. Evans
37	Ystumtien	ditto	ditto	Messrs. Taylor & Co.
38	Penrhiw	ditto	unworked	
39	Gellieirin	ditto	ditto	
40	Tyllwyd	ditto	ditto	
41	Aberyffrwd	ditto	ditto	
42	Botcoll	ditto	ditto	
43	Nantycreiau	ditto	worked	John Salmon, Esq.
44	Rhiwnegoes	blende	unworked	
45	Pantmawr	lead	ditto	
46	Blaencennant	ditto	worked	Messrs. Taylor & Co.
47	Brongoch	ditto	ditto	ditto
48	Graig-goch	ditto	ditto	ditto
49	Logau Las	ditto	ditto	ditto
50	Cwmystwyth	ditto	ditto	ditto
51	Glogvach	ditto	ditto	
52	Fairchance	ditto	ditto	
53	Glogvawr	ditto	ditto	
54	Esgairmwyn	ditto	ditto	John Salmon, Esq.
55	Esgairddu	ditto	unworked	ditto
56	Llwynllwyd	ditto	ditto	
57	Llwyn Malys	ditto	worked	Messrs. Cooper & Co.
58	Bronberllan	ditto	ditto	Messrs. Wall & Co.
59	Bryncrach	ditto	unworked	
60	Bronmwyn	ditto	ditto	
61	Rhysgog	ditto	ditto	
62	Esgairgadvach	ditto	ditto	
63	Cwm Robert	ditto	ditto	
64	Mynyddbach	ditto	ditto	
65	Vachddu	ditto	ditto	
66	Tanygaer	ditto	ditto	
67	Llanvair Clydogau	silver lead	worked	Messrs. Taylor & Co.
68	Brynambor	ditto	unworked	
69	Rhydtalog	ditto	ditto	

To this list may undoubtedly be added some more, which have escaped either the observation or the memory of the writer, but it is conceived that this short notice, if not quite enough to prove that Cardiganshire is likely to be the first mining field of the present day, will at least suffice for its present purpose.

Of these mines the most accessible to visitors, and indeed those best worth seeing in their process of working, are the Goginan mines, opposite the Druid Inn, on the Ponterwyd road, and the Lisburne mines, on the road from Llanafan bridge to Havod, both worked by Messrs. Taylor & Co. Above Havod are also the celebrated Cwmystwith mines, now under the same management, which have been for years very productive.

LLANBADARN FAWR.

About one mile and a quarter to the eastward of Aberystwith is the village of Llanbadarn-fawr, situate in the vale of Rheidol, under the northern bank of the river. It consists of cottages along the road under the churchyard, and up the vale, with an open space at the eastern end of the churchyard, which is bounded by a line of better built cottages parallel with a little brook running through the village from the high ground towards the river. In the centre of the open space are the two fragments of a large slab of stone, whence the crier used to proclaim all matters of public interest. It formerly stood on pillars of the same, but being fractured by the kindling of a bonfire upon it some years ago, it was afterwards placed upon a foundation of masonry. Around it the meat and butter markets were formerly held for Aberystwith, whither, however, they have been long since transferred. From the fine southern aspect of the village, its numerous gardens and orchards still continue to supply the market with a great portion of its vegetables and fruit.

The village in its present state has little beyond its church and churchyard to remind the visitor of its pristine eminence,

and even these memorials of its former importance are shorn of the pomp and splendour that formerly attended them, when the mitred bishop or lordly abbot here held sway. It derives its name from St. Paternus, a distinguished saint and confessor of the primitive British church. The sanctity of St. Dubricius and St. David drew into Great Britain, St. Paternus, a devout young man born of noble parents in the province of Brittany; his father was named Petranus, and his mother Gueana. After the birth of their son they parted by mutual consent from each other, to consecrate themselves more to the love of God; and Petranus went over to Ireland, where to his dying day he served his Master in watching, fasting, and prayer. Paternus was cousin to Cadvan, and when he was come to man's estate, resolved to follow his father's example; and, joining himself with divers others, he came into Britain, and was first of all in the college of Illtid, in Glamorganshire. The zeal and devotion of these early missionaries—the brighter from the darkness of the age in which they lived—ought ever to be regarded by us with the warmest admiration and reverence; and we may add, that length of time, and the progress of civilization, have not even yet removed these great examples of piety and benevolence from the first rank among the benefactors of mankind.

From Llanilltid, Paternus removed and founded a congregation at this place, which, sometimes, is called Mauritania, in the northern part of Ceretica, or Cardiganshire, and from him called St. Patern, by the Britons Llanbadarn-fawr, or the great church of St. Patern, the adjunct *mawr* being latinized into Mauritania.

Here he established a collegiate institution, consisting of 120 members, governed by an œconomus, a provost, and a dean, though John of Teignmouth says it contained 847 monks. From hence he passed into Ireland, to visit his father, to the mutual comfort of them both, where he also reconciled, by his mediation, two kings of different pro-

vinces in that island, who were at that time engaged in war. Then returning into Britain, he founded divers churches and monasteries, and contracted a most holy friendship with St. David and St. Teilo, with whom also he is said to have made a pilgrimage to Jerusalem, and to have been there consecrated bishop, and on his return from thence to have held his episcopal see at this place. He lived here, according to some authors, twenty-one years, eminent in all virtues, but more especially for his pastoral zeal, his great charity, his rigours, and mortifications.

At length, at the desire of King Caradawc, he returned to his native country, and by means of St. Sampson, was made bishop of Vannes. In his native country he met with no small opposition from the envy of false brethren, in so much that divers bishops declared themselves his adversaries, till his innocence and his patience brought them all to a happy reconciliation with him. However, after this he chose to withdraw himself into the land of the Franks, and there ended his days on the 15th of April, the year uncertain. His name is found inscribed with that of St. Sampson in the third council of Paris, about the year 560. The people of Brittany observed of old three days to his honour—the 15th of April, the day of his decease; the 20th of June, which was the day he was made bishop; and the 1st of November, which was the day peace was concluded between the saint and his adversaries. In this country, the 20th day of June is the day dedicated to his memory. In the 19th Triad he is ranked with Dewi and Teilo, under the appellation of the three Blessed Visitors of the Isle of Britain, because they visited both noble and common, relieving the necessitous, and teaching the faith in Christ without thanks or recompense. The writer of his life says, "He by feeding governed, and by governing fed the church in Ceretica." Padarn sang in a superior style,—

> "Didst thou not hear what Padarn sang,
> Who was a correct and powerful preacher;
> What man does, God will judge."

Cynoc was the successor of Padarn in the episcopacy of this church. Curig also and Afan have been conjectured to have held this see.

The extent of the diocese is uncertain; the northern part of Cardiganshire, above a line drawn from Llanddewi Aberarth to Llanddewi Brefi, with a great portion of Montgomeryshire, and some portion of Radnorshire, acknowledged the episcopal jurisdiction of Llanbadarn. The name of the bishop of Llanbadarn occurs at a synod held in Worcestershire in the year 603, and the Suffragan bishop of Llanbadarn was one of the deputation appointed to meet St. Augustine on his landing in Britain, with a view to resist the encroachments which were apprehended from the church of Rome, by opposing every attempt on the part of that missionary to establish the supremacy of the pope over the British church. Cynudin ap Bleiddyd ap Meirion is represented to have been a dean of this college. Very little beyond this is now known of the bishopric. The last notice we have of it is in the Welsh chronicle, under the year 720, when it is recorded that many of its churches were ravaged by the Saxons. The church is stated to have lost its episcopal privileges which were annexed to the diocese of St. David's, through the turbulent conduct of its inhabitants, who killed their bishop. The date of this event is not recorded. Mr. Edward Llwyd has hazarded the conjecture that the bishop's name was Idnerth or Idnert, the same person who is commemorated in a sepulchral inscription as Llanddewi Brefi.

In the time of Meredith ap Howell in 988, the Danes invaded South Wales, laid waste the country, and destroyed with a marked animosity many religious houses, and amongst them the church of Llanbadarn, and forced Meredith to compound with them for the security of his territories in future.

In the year 1038, this place was reduced to ashes by Llewellyn ap Sissylt, who wrested it by violence from the

hands of Howell ap Edwin; but in the year 1106, when Ithel and Madoc, who were in alliance with Henry I. ravaged all the county of Cardigan with the exception of this place and Llanddewi Brefi, it suffered only an attack upon its sanctuary. In the year 1071, Cardiganshire was again plundered by the Danes.

Gilbert Strongbow, Earl of Strigill, who in 1109 erected the castle of Aberystwith, gave the emoluments of this church to the monastery of St. Peter, in the year 1111; but it appears that the establishment was not then dissolved, as the death of John, Archpriest of Llanbadarn, for his life counted among the saints, is mentioned in the Welsh chronicle under the year 1136; and the death of Sulien ap Rhythmarch, a man of great knowledge, one of the college of Llanbadarn, is mentioned in the same document under the year 1143.

In the year 1116, Gryffydd ap Rhys, who had been invited into this part of the principality to assist in recovering from the Norman settlers the territories which they had usurped in the province of Cardigan, encamped his forces at Glascrug in this parish, previous to his unsuccessful attempt on Aberystwith castle. His failure in this enterprize was by some attributed to an act of impiety, in taking some cattle to refresh his forces from within the limits of the extensive sanctuary attached to the church of Llanbadarn.

In the year 1188, Baldwyn archbishop of Canterbury, attended by Giraldus Cambrensis, visited this place in his tour to preach the crusade throughout the principality. Describing the progress of the archbishop from Radnor to Llanbadarn-fawr, Giraldus states,—"On the following morning we were met by the side of a wood by Cynric, son of Rhys, accompanied by a body of light-armed youth; this young man was of a fair complexion, with curled hair, tall and handsome, clothed only, according to the custom of his country, with a thin cloak and inner garments; his legs and feet, regardless of thorns and thistles, were left bare;

a man not adorned by art but nature, bearing in his presence an innate, not an acquired, dignity." Arrived at Llanbadarn, the archbishop and his suite remained there one night, and preached the crusade on the following morning, when, after an eloquent sermon, the mission proceeded on their journey to North Wales, and prince Rhys accompanied them as far as Aberdovey, being the frontier of his dominions, and then took leave with the profoundest tokens of respect and admiration.

Giraldus adds that this church, like many others in Wales and Ireland, had a lay abbot, for a bad custom prevailed among the clergy of appointing the most powerful people of a parish stewards or patrons of their churches, who in progress of time, from a desire of gain, usurped the whole right, appropriating to their own use the possession of all the lands belonging to the clergy, and leaving only to the clergy the altars, with their tenths and oblations, and assigning even these to their sons and relations in the church. Such defenders, or rather destroyers of the church, caused themselves to be called abbots, and presumed to attribute to themselves a title as well as estates to which they had no claim.

In this state, says Giraldus, we found the church of Llanbadarn without a head, a certain old man, waxen old in iniquity, whose name was Ednouen, son of Gwaithvoed, being abbot, and his sons officiating at the altar. In the reign of Henry I. when the authority of the English prevailed in this part of Wales, the monastery of St. Peter's at Gloucester held quiet possession of this church, but after the death of that monarch, the English being driven out, the monks were expelled from their cloisters, and their places supplied by the same violent intrusion of clergy and laity which had formerly been practised.

The following circumstance, related by the same authority, will throw some light upon the history of those times. In the reign of King Stephen, a soldier born in Armorica,

having travelled through many parts of the world, from a desire of seeing different cities and the manners of their inhabitants, came by chance to Llanbadarn. On a certain feast day, whilst both the clergy and the people were waiting for the arrival of the abbot to celebrate the mass, the traveller perceived a body of young men, armed according to the custom of their country, approaching towards the church, and on enquiry of the by-standers which was the abbot, they pointed out to him a man walking foremost, with a long spear in his hand. Gazing on him with amazement, the stranger asked if the abbot had not another habit, or a different staff from that which he now carried with him, and on their answering in the negative, he cried, 'I have seen indeed and heard this day a wonderful novelty,' and from that hour he returned home and finished his labours and researches.

This wicked people, adds Giraldus, boast that a certain bishop of their church (for it was formerly a cathedral) was murdered by their predecessors; and on this account chiefly they ground their claims of right and possession. The church was subsequently appropriated to the abbey of the Vale Royal, in the county of Chester, founded by Edward I. It formerly enjoyed the privilege of sanctuary; not only was the church and churchyard deemed sacred as to any secular interference, but within the precincts of certain boundaries appointed by the bishop, all animals had the liberty of feeding in perfect security. The larger churches, endowed with greater privileges on account of their antiquity, extended the bounds of their sanctuaries still further, frequently as far as cattle could go in the morning and return by night.

The church is an ancient and venerable structure, in the form of a cross, with a large tower rising from the centre, supported by four massive piers, and surmounted by a low spire: the exact period of its erection is not known. A church here was destroyed by the Danes in 987, another in

1038; and Cardiganshire was again plundered by those marauders in 1071. These dates lead to the conjecture that the present edifice was erected after the Conquest, and this supposition is corroborated by the style of the building, which is that of the 12th century, and of the oldest kind of Gothic architecture extant in this country, the pointed arch being visible throughout. The entrance on the south side of the nave is an elaborate specimen of a door-way of that date, such as may be seen in Llandaff cathedral, erected by Bishop Urban in 1120. This has recently been restored to its primitive beauty by the liberality of a stranger, after having been hidden for years by successive coatings of whitewash. The interior consists of a nave, chancel, and two transepts, north and south. The area of the tower is thrown with great effect into the centre, by means of four lofty pointed arches. The font, opposite the principal entrance in the nave, is an octagonal basin, supported by an octagonal shaft, standing on three steps. On the north side of the church are very faint traces of additional building which were probably a part of the old monastery. In the north transept are visible two niches, and in the south were three, which, doubtless, held the monumental effigies of distinguished saints or warriors, though these memorials no longer exist. The chancel and north transept were separated from the rest of the cuhrch by light and elegant oaken screens of elaborate workmanship, of the style prevalent in the reign of Henry VII.; but these have disappeared under the innovating hand of modern churchwardenship.

The chancel contains several modern monuments, principally commemorative of members of the families of Gogerddan and Nanteos. Amongst the former is one to the memory of Mrs. Margaret Pryse, and another to that of John Pugh Pryse, Esq., successively Member of Parliament for the counties of Cardigan and Merioneth; and one by Flaxman to the memory of Harriet, wife of Pryse Pryse, Esq., and daughter of Lord Ashbrook, a very interesting specimen

of that artist's style. Amongst others belonging to members of the Nanteos family is one to the memory of Cornelius Le Brun, of Cologne, Esq., John Jones, Esq., of Nanteos, Lieutenant-Colonel of a foot regiment raised for the service of King Charles I.; and another to the memory of Sir Thomas Powell, knight, a judge in the King's Bench in the reign of Charles II. In the body of the church, and on the southern wall of the aisle, is a monument by Baily, to the memory of the infant child of M. D. Williams, Esq., Cwmcynfelin.

On the south wall of the chancel is a shield carved in stone, having on it the letter W, surmounted by a T, but whose achievement this was, cannot now be known.

A flat stone in the chancel covers rather than marks the burial-place of Lewis Morris, the Welsh antiquary. He was born in Anglesea, and brought up as a land-surveyor. He filled several offices under government, amongst others he was appointed to survey the coast of Wales for the board of admirality, which he accomplished in a satisfactory manner, and made public in 1748. At the same period he had the appointment of the surveyorship of the crown lands in Wales; and in the year 1750, he had the additional offices of agent and superintendent of the king's mines in the principality. He drew up an historical description of the mineralogy within the sphere of his jurisdiction, but the work was never published. From the nature and multiplicity of his engagements, an ordinary man could have devoted little of his time to literary objects; yet the acquirements of Mr. Morris, as a critic and antiquary, were of the first order, particularly in what relates to the British language and history. He was also esteemed as an elegant poet in his native language. Several specimens of his muse are published in a collection called "Diddanwch Teuluaidd." He passed the latter part of his life at Pembryn, in the vale of Melindwr, which devolved upon him by his marriage with Miss Lloyd, the heiress of the property. By that lady he

had issue of nine children. His valuable collection of Welsh manuscripts are deposited in the Welsh Charity School in London. He had besides made considerable progress in an elaborate work which he entitled, "Celtic Remains, or the Ancient Celtic Empire described in the English tongue."

In an ancient ode, entitled, "The Memorials of the Tombs of the Warriors," is the following, "Yn Llanbadarn bedd Cynon, i. e. In Llanbadarn is the grave of Cynon."

The tower contains a peal of six bells of very melodious tone; one bears the inscription, "We were all cast in Gloucester by Abel Reedhall, 1749;" and another, "Thomas Powell, Esq., and Lewis Williams, Gent., churchwardens, 1749." The great bell is inscribed, "I to the church the living call, and to the grave do summon all."

The churchyard of Llanbadarn, with its shady avenue of ash trees, and the few remaining offsets of its venerable yew tree, is peculiarly fitted to awaken in the contemplative mind those solemn feelings that arise on visiting the place of sepulture of those who are gone before us to that bourne from whence no traveller returns, as it is full of the memorials of frail mortality and relics of elder time.

Amongst its antiquities must be noticed two ancient stone crosses, ornamented with carvings and emblematical devices, and which originally stood near the south transept, but are now placed near the pathway leading through the churchyard to Aberystwith; the one above seven feet in length, one foot one inch in breadth at the upper part, but ten inches only in breadth at the lower part, and four inches and a half in thickness. On the one side at the upper part is a cross in alto relievo, and beneath it many other carvings, though the rude hand of time has almost obliterated all except the figure of a human skeleton, which is the lowermost carving of all. On the other side is also a cross more elegant in its dimensions, and beneath it several specimens of lattice-work, the whole in relief: it is also divided

into compartments. The other two sides are similar to each other, being each covered with imitations of twisted ropes in the manner of four rings joined: these have generally been called Runic knots or circles, forming a border to those sides, and may be seen on many ancient monuments in Wales, and were common to the eighth and ninth centuries. The other stone is probably of much greater antiquity than the former; it is an exact representation of a cross, and though much mutilated, yet enough remains to shew the original figure. From its base to its vertex is five feet three inches; its breadth at the lower part one foot three inches, and near the transverse beams one foot. The length of the transverse beam, as it now appears, is rather more than three feet. The front is ornamented with two lines, which are traced round the cross, but the other sides are quite plain: this now stands beside the other.

Llanbadarn is a vicarage, and what is remarkable there are no tithes belonging to it, but the impropriator pays twenty pounds per annum to the minister as a compensation: the tithes belong to the Chichester family. It is in the gift of the bishop of St. David's.

Visitors to Llanbadarn have the choice of either taking the turnpike road, passing the vicarage and Llangawsa, or else proceeding direct from Terrace Road across the milldam, passing the Chalybeate Well and Plas Crug.

PLAS CRUG.

The ruins of Plas Crug give a picturesque effect to the environs of the town. They are situate on the banks of the Rheidol, upon a rocky mound, whence the name is derived, The Palace of the Mount, though some translate the cognomen crug as heathy, and Pennant calls it Tŷ Cryf, or the Strong House. It was a castellated mansion, surrounded by a moat, and its apartments have evidently been numerous and large. The original extent, as well as its moat, may be

easily traced ; and one of its towers embattled is still standing. A story prevails of there having been a subterraneous communication from it to the castle on the one hand, and to the sanctuary of Llanbadarn on the other. Though now degraded to the uses of a common farm yard.

"Yet time has seen, which lifts the low,
And level lays the haughty brow,
Has seen this broken pile complete
Big with the vanity of state.

One of the bards, Einon ap Gwgan, testifies it to have been inhabited by the native princes, in a poem which celebrates Llewelyn the Great, about the year 1244. He says, "The spear of Llewelyn flashes in a hand accustomed to martial deeds, it kills and puts its enemies to flight by the palace of the Rheidol."

"Llewychedig llawn yn llaw reddorawl,
Yn lladd dy nerth wrth lŷs Rheidiawl."

It is said to have been likewise the residence of Owen Glendower, in 1404, when laying siege to the castle of Aberystwith, then in the possession of Prince Henry, afterwards Henry V. Two such powerful rivals as Glendower and the hero of Agincourt could not long reside so near to each other in hostile array as Llanbadarn and Aberystwith, observes the biographer of Owen Glendower. On this occasion it was the lot of young Henry to make way and surrender that important castle to his rival, who styled himself Prince of Wales, as descended from the ancient princes of the country. Upon the surrender of the castle, it was garrisoned strongly with Welshmen, by Glendower, and retained by his partisans for about four years.

Shakespeare represents our fiery countryman boastful of his successes, and Henry IV.'s defeats by affirming,—

"Three times hath Henry Bolinbroke made head
Against my power: thrice from the banks of Wye,
And sandy bottomed Severn, have I sent him
Bootless home, and weather-beaten back."

The ruins now form a part of the Nanteos estate, and are thought to have been at one time the manor-house of the lordship of Llanbadarn, belonging to that family.

THE CHALYBEATE WELL.

Exclusive of the convenience and excellence of the bathing at Aberystwith, it possesses, like Scarborough and Brighton, an advantage over many other places on the coast, that of having in its immediate vicinity a fine Chalybeate Spring, the use of which is applicable to, and will much assist in the cure of many diseases for which the sea is visited. This Well was discovered by accident about the year 1779, and is situate a few hundred yards east of the town, upon a common close to the mill leet, and not far distant from a stone quarry.

Some years ago, when the water was directed from the mill leet, for the purpose of clearing away the weeds which had collected there, the Well became dry, and a small stream proceeding from the north was observed rising from the bed of the mill leet. Upon covering this over, the flow returned at the usual place.

The neighbouring country abounds in springs of a ferruginous nature, and traces of sulphur have been lately discovered at Penglaise, the seat of Roderick Richardes, Esq.

This Spa yields about one gallon in a minute. After rain it runs much faster, and its specific gravity at the temperature of 56 is equal to that of distilled water. During the months of March and April, the temperature varied from 46° to 50°. and did not rise higher when that of the atmosphere was above 60.*

Before sun-rise, when the degree of heat was 42, that of the Well continued 47—Fahrenheit.

Its sensible properties, when first taken up from the Well,

* In July it reached 58.

are, It is quite clear, colourless, and bright; it exhales a chalybeate smell, does not sparkle in the glass, but slowly separates a few bubbles, some of which ascend to the top, and make their escape, while others adhere to the sides of the vessel in larger quantities than in common water.

To the taste, it is neither acidulous or saline, (except after high tides, when it has been mixed with sea water) but simply chalybeate, and is by no means unpalatable.

When the water has rested for some time exposed to the air, it becomes turbid throughout; an irridescent pellicle encrusts the surface, and in a few hours a brown precipitate falls to the bottom, the water having lost its mineral properties. The same effect takes place more rapidly when assisted by heat.

With different re-agents, the following appearances are manifested:

Tincture of galls affords a fine purple approaching to black, but not after it has stood long, or been boiled.

Solution of silver in nitric acid, give first a pale white, which becomes blue on exposure to the light.

Lime water renders it immediately turbid; and tincture of litmus becomes changed to a light red colour.

Syrup of violets, after standing for some time, becomes very slightly green.

Concentrated sulphuric acid produces no sensible disengagement of bubbles.

Oxalic acid produces no change.

A solution of soap is curdled both before and after it has been boiled, therefore it may be called a hard water.

Nitrate of barytes does not indicate the presence of sulphuric acid.

Solution of blue vitriol causes a green colour.

Volatile caustic ammonia, and caustic potash, occasion yellowish sediments.

By a careful evaporation, a wine gallon of this water will afford eight grains of solid matter, and occasionally a larger proportion. The residue has a salt taste; and by the addition of sulphuric acid, evolves muriatic acid gas.

A small portion being mixed with cold spring water, suffered to rest for two or three hours, then filtered through paper, and a little of the nitrate of silver dropped into the solution, a white cloudiness takes place. This is followed by a blue precipitate, which is not re-dissolved by the nitric or acetic acids.

This water has been supposed to contain a small portion of sulphur, but as yet I have not been able to ascertain its existence. The acetate of lead when employed in solution, assumes a faint blue, with a tinge of brown, which is probably owing to the presence of muriatic acid.

From the above experiments, it is evident that this water contains calx of iron, which is suspended by the medium of carbonic acid gas and marine salt; in other respects I do not find that it differs materially from pure spring water: therefore it may be termed a simple carbonated chalybeate, and much resembles the Tunbridge waters.

The track over which it flows, is marked by an ochrey deposition, and no frogs or small fish are seen within the influence of the fixed air; it being destructive to animal life when respired, and in some instances capable of producing effects similar to those of intoxication.

The medicinal virtues of this Spa, depend on the carbonic acid, and oxide of iron, the salts being too inconsiderable to deserve any particular attention.

By proper regulation, it will be found very salutary in all relaxations of the stomach, and intestinal canal, as well as general debility, stimulating the action of the heart and arteries, and increasing the florid colour of the blood: by perseverance in its use the appetite becomes excited, and the spirits improved.

And in a variety of disorders where steel may be required, it will prove of considerable service.

On commencing a course of this water, the bowels should be attended to, and an aperient medicine administered, or a small quantity of sulphate of magnesia occasionally combined with it. The constitution of the patient should likewise be

considered; and if there is any tendency to inflammatory complaints, determination of blood to the head, or pulmonary affection, its use must be either laid aside, or continued with caution.

To persons of a delicate habit, the fresh drawn water may, from its low temperature, occasion an unpleasant sensation in the stomach, which may be prevented by adding a little tincture of cardamoms, or any other cordial, which I think preferable to warming it;* for the carbonic acid is in the latter method too often suffered to escape.

A quarter of a pint should be taken two or three times a day, and it would be most advantageous for obvious reasons, to drink it at the Well about eight o'clock in the morning, and again between breakfast and dinner, gradually increasing the dose according to the age and habit of the invalid.

Chalybeate waters, when first employed, frequently evacuate the bowels, especially if there is any accumulation of bile in them, but their operation ceases so soon as the intestines are restored to their natural state, and the opposite effect is apt to occur.

The requisite duration of a course of steel water extends from three to eight or nine weeks; when it agrees, the whole frame becomes strengthened: the urinary and cuticular excretions augmented, the fæces become of a dark colour, a circumstance generally accompanying a course of chalybeate waters, and which it may be proper the patient should be aware of.† When assisted by the warm bath, its power over chlorosis, and other obstructions, will be much more perceptible; but if in this time it fails to regenerate health, a further trial would not be desirable, as little or no advantage could be expected from it.

* This is done by filling a bottle, corking it well, and immersing it in hot water for ten minutes.

† Dr. Jamieson observes, that neither the Tunbridge or Cheltenham waters discolour the intestinal evacuations.

As a topical application, it has been resorted to, with success for various species of ulcers, and sometimes given relief in chronic ophthalmia.

The foregoing description and analysis of this Spa is by Dr. Richard Williams, of this place, and is extracted from a former Guide to Aberystwith, published in the year 1816.

CRAIGLAIS, OR CONSTITUTION HILL, AND THE VALE OF CLARACH.

At the extremity of the little bay that extends beyond the north end of the Marine Terrace and the Marine Baths, rises the dark blue cliff of Craiglais, whence the stone used in building the town has been principally obtained. To ascend the hill the visitor should take one of the paths winding through the quarry till a considerable height has been attained, when, on looking round, he will be compensated for the fatigue of the ascent by a pleasing bird's eye view of the Town, the Castle, and Harbour, including the vicinity as far as Llanbadarn bridge, with Pendinas, the Alltwen, and the whole of the southern line of coast as far as St. David's Head; within the range of which may be discerned, on a clear day, the towns of Aberayron and New Quay. Ascending still higher till the summit is gained, one of the most magnificent marine prospects that can be conceived is presented to the view, which embraces the whole of Cardigan Bay, from its southern extremity at St. David's Head, to its northernmost point at Bardsey Island, and comprises within its range, as well as the latter island, St. Tudwall's and its roadstead, with the lofty mountains named the Rivals, which form so striking a feature of the Carnarvonshire promontory. Further into the interior, towering high above its subject mountains, may be discerned the elevated peak of the majestic Snowdon. Casting a glance along the coast, are seen the interminable sands that skirt the shores of the mountainous region of Merionethshire, from

Barmouth point, past Towyn, and the little sea-port of Aberdovey, with its capacious river, to the Borth Sands, specially noticed in another part of this work, whilst nearer at hand may be traced the long line of a reef or ridge which extends for several miles into the sea from Wallog, and is left dry to a considerable distance at low water, called Sarn Cynfelin, or Cynfelin's Causeway.

From the summit of Craiglais, the path continues at a considerable elevation above the level of the sea along the side of the hill, and gradually descends into the neighbouring vale of Clarach; and on one or two points of the upper path, from the steepness of the cliffs, with the sea lashing the rocks at its base, the view is peculiarly grand and striking.

The path gradually descends into the vale of Clarach, through which the river of the same name flows and falls into the sea, while the shore expands into a fine sandy beach very favourable for bathing, and very safe to the timid, from its shallowness. The little vale of Clarach is celebrated for its early harvest, and more particularly for the superior quality of its barley crops. This advantage is derived partly from its sheltered situation and genial soil, and partly from the facility of gathering the sea weed or wrack after storms, which is used as a manure. After crossing the vale, and then the river by a wooden foot-bridge, and enjoying the picturesque beauties of the scene, parties may make the return trip to Aberystwith by several ways, as may be most agreeable to their taste. To the geologist the return along the rocks under the cliffs, though rugged, is the most interesting, as he may thus examine the stratification and component parts of those stupendous rocks that environ the coast. These consist of a long range of slate and shale rocks, extending from the point of Craiglais to the vale of Clarach, several hundred feet high; the slate lies in alternate strata with the shale, and the inclination of the strata is in all directions from vertical to horizontal. The slate puts on the appearance of flag stone in the bed, but when raised,

easily divides into thin laminæ. The shale appears somewhat like the slate, but when quarried out, falls into pieces of two or three inches long, containing earthy matter between the laminæ. The upper regions of these cliffs afford a secure retreat in their numerous clefts and apertures for rabbits, kites, hawks, ravens, and choughs, while the lower portion, subject to the action of the sea, and the dashing of its waves, is thereby worn into caverns and recesses of the most grotesque forms, interspersed with projecting rocks. Just past the point of Craiglais, in one of these recesses, the projecting rock forming one side is completely perforated by the action of the waves on the soft shale, between the two strata of firm stone, so that a person entering at one end may creep through and come out at the aperture on the other side. This is called St. Matthew's cave or church. Further on is an insulated rock that seems to have been detached from the adjacent cliffs, which is remarkable for its vertical stratification. In the summer season it is the haunt of gulls, cormorants, divers, and other birds of passage, which congregate in flocks upon it; and it is thence called Craig-y-fulfran, or the Cormorant's rock. The lover of antiquarian research or legendary lore may probably be induced to extend his walk along the cliffs beyond Clarach as far as Wallog, whence that ridge of shallow ground, called Sarn Cynfelin, runs out into the sea six or seven miles, till it terminates in the shoally and dangerous ground called Caer Gwyddno, or the Patches; beyond this the rocks continue lofty and precipitous as far as the Borth Sands; at one point is a projecting rock called the Harp rock, from the fancied resemblance of the strata to the strings and figure of that instrument.

The Botanist will be best suited by taking one of the many paths back over the hill top, as a variety of Alpine and marine plants are there to be found, not common to inland places. A table furnishing a list of some of the specimens indigenous to this locality, will be given in a subsequent part of this work.

The lover of the picturesque will be most gratified by proceeding up the vale till he reaches the old Borth road, by which he may return to Aberystwith, passing Llangorwen church and Cwmcynfelin.

LLANGORWEN CHURCH.

The church of Llangorwen is a very beautiful structure, built of the harder veins of the slate-stone of the country, worked at great labour. It is built in the early English style, and consists of a nave seventy-two feet by thirty-three feet, and a chancel twenty-nine feet by twenty-seven. The entrance is at the west end, where the foundation stone is laid for a tower to be hereafter erected. The wood-work of the interior is of very substantial character, and of the best workmanship, the whole being of Welsh oak or Spanish chesnut. Immediately on entering on the south side is a capacious font of very fine stone, raised above the floor of the church. The nave is fitted up with particularly low benches with close backs, and is separated from the chancel by an arch and dwarf screen. The sittings are all free. In front of the screen on the north side, a small space, with two steps up to it, is parted off with neat rails fitted for a reading-pew. At the end of it next the aisle, is a remarkably handsome carved eagle spread, from which the lessons are read, and a litany-desk of elegantly carved oak stands against the screen for the prayers; and on the north-east angle the pulpit, which is somewhat lower than usual, is placed. The pulpit, eagle, and litany-desk, are close together, and are well arranged for the different purposes for which they are designed.

The chancel, which is paved with Painswick stone, is entered by a step, and the altar is approached by three more: on the upper one, low and unobtrusive rails are fixed. The altar is of Bath stone, with a screen of seven arches, of the same stone, at the back: under the central one is a plain

cross, on four of the others the Lord's Prayer, Commandments, and Creed, in the Welsh language, but in Saxon characters; and in the space above, between the points of the arches, the Trisagion is inserted in gilt letters. Against the north wall is a prothesis or side-table, on which the bread and wine are placed before they are required for the Holy Communion. In the lower part of the chancel, against the wall, are plain but handsome benches for the clergy when present, or for the communicants, at the time of celebrating the Holy Sacrament. The design of the altar, and of the chancel, is taken from that of the church at Littlemore, near Oxford. No one can enter the church without perceiving its adaptation and appropriateness to holy purposes. The chaste beauty of the chancel, its repose, its simplicity, the delicacy of the stone-work of the interior, contrasted with the blue flagstone of the nave, gives an air of purity which will not fail to impress the mind with a corresponding idea of the sanctity of the place.

The hamlet of Pontllangorwen, in which this church has been erected, and the further part of it and of Broncastellan being distant four miles from the parish church at Llanbadarn-fawr, the present site was selected as not being more than a mile and a half from either of these hamlets. Independent of the eligibility of the site for the sacred edifice, regard was also had to the tradition of there having been formerly a church on the spot.

The land to build upon, as well as the burial-ground, was given by a zealous friend to the church, who also endowed it with £1000, and contributed the greater part of the cost of the erection, aided however by the liberal subscriptions of some of the neighbouring Gentry, Clergy, and parishioners.

It was consecrated for its sacred purposes on the 16th day of December, 1841, by the Bishop of St. David's, who performed the impressive and solemn service of its dedication in the Welsh language, a circumstance without a parallel during the preceding three centuries at least.

It has been formed into a District Church, independent of the mother church, and has a daily morning and evening service, at 8 A. M. and 6 P. M., and on Sundays and Saints' Days at 9 A. M. and 4 P. M.

The church may be seen readily on application to the clerk, who lives close at hand.

PEN DINAS.

One of the most conspicuous objects in view of Aberystwith is Pen Dinas hill. It is situate between the rivers Rheidol and Ystwith, a little above their confluence, and being isolated from the neighbouring heights, afforded, in warlike times, a strong natural position for defence, which had been rendered still stronger by a double rampart of earthwork, with sloping sides on every part except the south, on which side the abrupt declivity of the hill rendered surprise by an enemy impracticable: the lines are still visible. Some have thought this post to have been the castle of Aberystwith, referred to on some occasions in the early periods of our history; but it seems better adapted for a secure temporary encampment for an invading army than for a permanent fortification. Gryffydd ap Rhys drew up here the main body of his army in the year 1114, in his attack upon the castle of Aberystwith, whence he detached an advanced party against the Normans in the castle, which being repulsed with loss, occasioned his retreat.

During the civil wars, the parliamentarian forces are said to have taken up their position at this place, whence they bombarded the castle. If so, it was probably from the foot of the hill near the smelting chimneys that they brought their artillery to bear upon the devoted walls of this ancient castle, and reduced the proud structure of the first Edward to the mouldering fragments we now behold.

To make the ascent of the hill, cross the bridge, and pass through Trefechan along the turnpike road as far as the first

solitary building abutting with one end on the road: here leave the turnpike, and take that which runs along the side of the hill on a gradual ascent through four fields, till it leads to the old encampment. By this course the visitor has the lower reach of the vale of Rheidol, with Llanbadarn embowered in orchards, and its venerable church, in view, while the scene is backed by an elevated chain of mountains running from the direction of the Teifi towards the Dovey, among which Pumlumon is pre-eminent. Still further in the back ground the mountains of North Wales are discernible. Having reached the encampment, its position displays considerable skill, as a few determined spirits could keep multitudes at bay. Passing round the crown of the hill, the vale of the Ystwith on the other side comes in view, and exhibits that river diverted by the high ground at Llanychaiarn bridge to find a channel through the rugged rocks at right angles with its due course, till it turns at Tan-y-castell towards the sea. There is another fortification on the summit of Tan-y-castell hill, which some are disposed to consider as the original Aberystwith castle, it being situate on the Ystwith river. A full and pleasing view is here obtained of Tan-y-bwlch, a modern mansion, built by the late General Davies, and now inherited by his son, Matthew Davies, Esq., High Sheriff of the county, while the view seaward is terminated only by the horizon. Another road will now present itself, by which the party may descend on the other side.

A different way of ascending the hill is by taking the lane that turns to the left in going to the Pier, till opposite the old smelting chimneys, whence a road runs up the hill in a continued ascent to the top, where, perhaps, the best view of the pier is obtained, as it is seen directly underneath.

Many vestiges of antiquity have been found on this hill. A Celt or British battle-axe, of which an engraving may be seen in Meyrick's History of Cardiganshire, and a gold angel of the time of Henry VII., found by some men digging a trench, and in good preservation, being among the

number. On one side of the coin is represented a ship at sea, whose planks seem to fold over each other, and whose quarterdeck and forecastle are surrounded with network, to prevent accidents. The ship is charged with an escutcheon of the royal arms of France and England quarterly, above which appears a cross fastened to the mast, the top of which may be seen over it. On the dexter side of this cross is the letter H., on the sinister the combined rose of the houses of York and Lancaster; round this is inscribed, "Per Cruce Tva Salva nos Xpe Red.—By thy cross, Oh Christ our Redeemer, save us." On the reverse is St. Michael the archangel thrusting a spear, terminated at one end with a cross crosslet, into a dragon's mouth; he has both his legs on the dragon: around this is, "Henric' Di Gra Rex Ang. & Fra." The diameter of the coin is one inch and an eighth, and the value originally 6*s*. 8*d*., but raised under different reigns, till Elizabeth fixed it at 10*s*., at which rate it stood till angels were discontinued, and guineas introduced by Oliver Cromwell. This coin was sent to the Antiquarian Society on the 1st of May, 1802.

THE ALLTWEN CLIFF.

The bridge thrown over the Ystwith, to communicate with the Pier, has very much extended the sphere of visitors' excursions from the town, as they may thus stroll along the southern beach to the rocky point of the Alltwen, and roam over the lofty cliffs, theretofore inaccessible, except by the circuitous route of Rhyd-y-felin. The Alltwen cliff is interesting as the spot whence the materials for forming the pier were raised: it is also the limit, by Act of Parliament, of the port of Aberystwith on the south, as Craiglais, or Constitution Hill, is on the north. Visitors to this shore, on passing Tan-y-bwlch, may likewise inspect the ancient fortification, before referred to, at Tan-y-castell, on the southern side of the Ystwith, which occupies the

summit of a woody knoll between Tan-y-castell and Tan-y-bwlch. The outlines of the fortress may be easily traced, as the earthen rampart is still entire. This was probably an ancient British fortress, or place of defence, in connexion with the castle of Aberystwith, commanding the pass by sea into the interior through the vale of the Ystwith, as the castle did that of the Rheidol valley. For such a purpose it occupies a commanding position, where the river has to struggle through high and impeding banks between Llanychaiarn bridge and Tan-y-castell, and affords a remarkable view of the river in its struggle to find a passage to the sea. Parties may prolong their walk to the bridge at Tan-y-castell through Rhyd-y-felin back to the town, or may make a more extended excursion along the margin of the cliffs of the Alltwen towards Morfa Bychan on the other side. The ascent of the Alltwen may be made up the inclined face of the cliff itself, or passing Tan-y-bwlch from the shore, by turning between it and the ancient fortress, and a walk of great extent and boldness of scenery may be enjoyed.

After gaining the summit, and continuing some distance along the edge of the cliff, near the farm-house of Pen-y-graig, the visitor will be conducted to a point whence he can look down upon the slope on which Morfa Bychan, formerly a gentleman's residence, now a farm-house, is situate, with the farms of Lletty'rgegin, Cwmceirw, Foeslas, and Mynachty'r-graig, in succession, occupying the slope beneath. At the same time the sunken and slipped cliffs themselves will not fail to arrest the attention, as the surface is rent and riven into fissures and cracks, similar to what might be expected to follow an earthquake. It would seem that these cliffs are composed of slaty rocks, which having been first undermined by the constant action of the sea and tides, must have at length fallen, and left the cliffs before precipitous and overhanging, declivous and distorted. Such landslips, and the evident signs of defalcation along the

The Devil's Bridge, near Aberystwith.

shore, confirm the traditions of the country as to the loss of valuable tracts of land by the encroachment of the main, and give ground for credence in the existence, in past times, of the wave-whelmed territory of Cantref y Gwaelod.

From Morfa Bychan to Mynachty, southward, the cliffs are less elevated, but from the latter place to Llanrhystid they again become bold and lofty. At Mynachty'r Graig, (the monk's house in the rock,) the stratification of the cliffs becomes horizontal, and the tide rocks at low water are as smooth and level as well-laid pavements, while two or three isolated masses of rock have all the regularity of the most finished masonry, and seem as if set in courses.

In the cliffs is a cave of some magnitude, worn by the sea, and above it a round cavity descending into it from the cliff, not altogether unlike the construction of a limekiln. It is called in the neighbourhood "Twll Twrw," or the Thunder Hole, from the rumbling noise made by the tide rushing through the cavern resembling the sound of thunder. In stormy weather it is represented as being particularly grand and terrific, the sea boiling up to the top of the cavity. This curious spot, though only five miles from Aberystwith, and accessible by land, or by sea in fine weather, is unknown and unvisited, except by occasional parties to the Puggen rocks, near Llanrhystid, when proceeding thither for shooting cormorants, and other sea-fowl that abound there.

THE DEVIL'S BRIDGE.

Leaving the town by the south turnpike, the road to the Devil's Bridge passes along the elevated ridge that skirts the south side of the river Rheidol in a long but gradual ascent, affording in several points interesting and varied views of the vale of Rheidol; between the second and third milestones, a view of the lower reach of the vale, including Llanbadarn and its bridge, with the town of Aberystwith,

is afforded. On passing the third milestone, a turn in the road shuts out the valley view for above a mile. After passing Brynsion at the fourth milestone, a view is caught of the opening of the woody vale of Melindwr, with the Goginan lead mine, backed by the double-peaked summit of Pumlumon. The road then turns again from the valley view, but after passing the sixth milestone, and beyond the woods and plantation of Cwmseiri, the valley re-opens to view, and thence to the seventh milestone, affords some of the most charming prospects imaginable, a space of perhaps four miles of the valley, from above Glanrheidol nearly to Vronfraith being visible at one glance. The silver stream of the Rheidol is seen stealing its sinuous course through the valley, enclosed by lofty banks, sometimes wooded, elsewhere presenting scenes of the highest cultivation. After passing the eighth milestone, an intervening ridge again shuts out the valley; and at the ninth milestone, the vale itself contracts into a deep glen, when the banks become abrupt and precipitous. A cascade on the opposite side of the river comes in view, and harmonises with the increasing wildness of the scenery; and shortly after, the road takes another turn round an intervening ridge to the tenth milestone, passing the base of a craggy and conical hill, under which is the newly-built house of Ty'ncastell. Thence the road soon reaches the turnpike gate at Ty'nrhyd, where an introductory view is obtained of the deep glen wherein the rivers Mynach and Rheidol commingle their waters. A sharp descent now leads directly to the Hafod Arms Hotel, at the Devil's Bridge.

The view from the windows of the Hotel is perfectly enchanting; immediately below, and only separated from the house by the space in front, is a profound chasm stretching east and west about a mile, the almost perpendicular sides of which are covered with trees, chiefly coppice woods of oak. At the bottom of this abyss runs the river Mynach, its roaring tide hidden from the eye by the deep shade of

surrounding woods, but bursting upon the ear in the awful sound of many waters. In front, the Rheidol is seen rushing down a chasm in the mountains, and with headlong fury precipitating itself in a fall. We now proceed to the bridge. Pont y Mynach, or Pont ar Fynach, (the Bridge over the Mynach) consists of a single arch between 20 and 30 feet in the chord, thrown over another of less space than 20 feet; beneath is a dark and tremendous chasm. The lower arch is generally said to have been thrown across by the monks of Strata Florida Abbey; but the country people, in superstitious times, deemed it a work of supernatural agency, and gave it the name of the Devil's Bridge, by which it is now generally known. The upper arch was built over the other at the expence of the county in 1753, and the iron balustrade was added by Mr. Johnes in 1814. The lower arch is about 6 feet below the upper, and may be distinctly viewed by looking over the upper bridge; but the whole scene is so enveloped in wood, that the depth is not perceived.

A new and interesting view of the origin of the Devil's Bridge, and of the Hospices in its vicinity, has been communicated to the writer by a gentleman of Aberystwith, who has brought considerable local knowledge and learning to bear upon the point: he says,—

"This bridge is by all tourists stated to have been erected by the monks of Strata Florida, but the assertion rests merely on conjecture. If it be assumed that it was built by any monks at all, I should be disposed to think that it was built by another order, *i. e.* by the *Knights Hospitallers*, and my reason for so thinking is this:—The chief, or at any rate one of the prominent objects of the order, as its name implies, was hospitality—to establish places of rest and entertainment for the accommodation of pilgrims and travellers. Their patron saint was St. John the Baptist. It is a recorded and well authenticated fact, that at one time the whole of the parish of Yspytty-Ystrad Meyrick was their property. We find there a Chapel, dedicated to St. John; also *another* at Yspytty Ystwith, a few miles distant from it. These two are on the south side of the

bridge; on its *other* side, at a distance of about two miles, lies Yspytty Cenfin with another Chapel dedicated to St. John. Here we find three of these *Hospices* within a short distance of each other, and at each a Chapel, dedicated to St. John, the Patron Saint of the Knights Hospitallers; hence I infer that these three hospices were established by this Order, and, as one of them is on a different side of the River Mynach to the others, that the bridge was put up by the Knights Hospitallers for facilitating the communication between the *Hospices*, and not by the Cistercian order of Strata Florida, whose Patron Saint is, I believe, *St. Mary*. The position of the three hospices and Strata Florida will be better understood through a glance at the Ordnance Survey."

The cleft over which these two bridges extend has evidently been deepened by the incessant attacks of the impetuous Mynach on the solid wall of rock; but as the width of the aperture is, in some places, not more than fifteen inches, it is improbable that the river should have been the sole cause of the chasm, and it must probably be attributed to some convulsion of nature, by which the rocks were first riven in sunder, and the waters thus finding an outlet, have contrived to work through their confined channel. Grand as is the view from the bridge itself, when the spectator looks down, half dizzy, into the drear abyss, yet he is then unable to form an adequate idea of the vastness, the gloomy magnificence of the scene as beheld from below.

In order to view the scenery of this romantic spot, the visitor should cross the bridge from the Hotel, and then descend by the right a steep and rather slippery path, to the rocky bottom of the aperture, through which the impetuous Mynach urges its furious passage. This stream, after having descended about five miles from the mountains to the north-east, forces itself here through masses of opposing rocks, hollowing out deep cavities filled with waters dark from the surrounding gloom. The cleft appears a narrow and perpendicular fissure in a solid rock, 114 feet in height, and the effect of the double arch, and the narrowness of the cleft,

darkened by its artificial roof, increases the solemn gloom of the scene; while so loud is the din of the torrent as it chafes against the rocks which gird its waters, that persons standing in company on the edge of the rocks can, with difficulty, hear each other's voices at the highest pitch.

On regaining the road, the second descent must be made by passing through a wood at the distance of a few yards from the other side of the road, to view the four successive falls from a point of a rock in front. Each of these is received into a deep pool at the bottom, but so diminished to the eye at the present point of view, as almost to resemble one continued cascade. The first fall occurs about 40 yards below the bridge, where the river is confined to narrow limits by the rocks, and from the steep inclination of its bed, is thrown with great violence over a rock, about 20 feet in height, into a black pool beneath. Scarcely has the water been forced from this foaming receptacle, when it is projected from another precipice of not less than 60 feet, into a smaller reservoir. From this it hurries to a third fall of 20 feet, when it encounters rocks of prodigious size, through which it struggles to the edge of the largest cataract, and pours in one unbroken volume down a precipice 110 feet in perpendicular height.

The third path, down which the guide conducts visitors, is in front of, and on the same side as the Hotel, by the side of the falls, and commands very beautiful views of them individually. The four cascades taken thus in detail, impress the mind more strongly than before with the gigantic measurement of their proportions, because here the extent of the unfathomed pools between each are obvious to the eye. The second fall of 60 feet is extremely grand. The summary of the various falls is as follows,—First fall, 20 feet; second, 60 feet; third, 20 feet; and the fourth, 110 feet; while from the bridge to the water beneath there is a depth of 114 feet, making the total descent 314 feet. As, however, in this computation, no allowance is made for the inclined direction of the river between the various falls,

the total height from the bridge to the level of the stream at its junction with the Rheidol must be a fall of nearly 500 feet. The rocks on each side of the falls rise perpendicularly to the height of 800 feet, and are finely clothed with coppice woods, vegetating between the crevices, and forming one vast forest. Near the basin of the third fall, and at the head of the fourth, is a dark cavern in the slaty rock, for years, according to tradition, the hiding place of two brothers and a sister, called Plant Matt, or Matthew's Children, who infested the neighbourhood for years as free-booters, till at length, committing murder, they were taken and tried, found guilty, and executed. The woods through which the paths lead abound with nests of the Formica Herculanea, the largest size of ants that are natives of Britain. Their nests are composed of small twigs, forming a heap a yard or two across, and from one to two feet in height, and the insects themselves exceed in size three of the ordinary black kind, and are possessed of uncommon strength. The neighbouring rocks also are a favourite resort of hawks and kites of the largest kind known in this country.

The fourth descent is to the Fall of the Rheidol, by many considered the finest portion of the scenery. For this purpose a guide should be engaged from the Hotel, as the approach is at all times difficult; and during heavy rains, entirely impracticable. The basin into which this cataract falls is agitated like a sea by the violence of the shock. The rocks which lie across the channel are enormous, the hue of the waters dark, the hills aspire to the clouds, and the foam and roar of the torrent adds to the gloomy grandeur around. Opposite this stupendous object, upon a bank high and well wooded on all sides, at the height of 150 yards, stands the Havod Arms Hotel. The perpendicular descent of this cataract is not less than 210 feet. The Rheidol soon after meets the Mynach, and their junction may here be traced. The cascades on the two rivers, however, are not within sight of each other.

One wonder yet remains: the Parson's Bridge, a scene

Falls at the "Devil's" Bridge, near Aberystwith.

both sublime and horrible; it is on the Rheidol, but higher up. There are two ways to it, either through Yspytty Cynfaen churchyard, or by climbing the precipice from the foot of the Rheidol, and descending at the place on the opposite side, whence alone it can be sketched. It is named the Parson's Bridge, from being the commom foot-way for the villagers to Yspytty church. The river is here confined to a narrow channel of great depth by two projecting rocks. Over this stupendous acherontic pass a foot-bridge of the rudest kind, consisting of little more than a plank or beam of wood, with only a slight hand-rail for security, has been thrown from rock to rock, and forms as picturesque and interesting an object as any in this astonishing district.

The church of Yspytty Cynfaen consists simply of a nave, and is chiefly interesting on account of its origin. From its name, Yspytty, which is evidently a corruption of Hospitium, it is considered to have been one of the numerous places of shelter and refreshment erected and maintained by the monks of Ystrad Fflur in their wild country, at a period when it contained hardly any other human habitation.* In the churchyard are four large stones, so placed as to form the quarter of the circumference of a circle. The largest of these is that standing to the east, which measures about 11 feet above the ground; two of the others form at present the gate posts, and stand to the southward. This was, in all probability, a Druidical circle, and occupied the site of the present church; the other stones were probably broken to pieces to build the Christian edifice.

HAVOD.

The road from the Devil's Bridge to Havod winds up the steep bank of the Mynach, commanding a fine view of the glen and its romantic bridge, and crosses the ridge separating

* See Extract in page 103.

that glen from Cwmystwith. On the summit is a rude stone arch, built under the direction of the late Mr. Johnes, to commemorate the completion of the fiftieth or jubilee year of the reign of King George III. From this spot is an uninterrupted view of the North Wallian chain of hills, and the last and most distant view of the sea in this direction, nearly fifteen miles off. Hence the descent is commenced into the vale of Cwmystwith, when some dry stone walls surrounding plantations announce the approach to the demesne of Havod. After leaving Cwmystwith road, by a turn to the right, and passing a common gate, with an ordinary cottage lodge, by degrees a scene of sylvan beauty opens in the descent, which, after the barren ridge just passed, is invested with great interest; both sides of the mountains which bound the Ystwith are covered from top to bottom with plantations of luxuriant oak and ash, intermixed with larch and beach. Passing through some arable land, a handsome park gate, with a lodge, ushers the visitor to the first view of the little church, elevated among trees on the right. A thick wood is now entered, producing all the pleasing effect of umbrageous groves, while far below rolls the river Ystwith: indeed, in order to form even a faint idea of this place from description, one must picture to the fancy a deep and narrow valley, winding between mountains of towering height, and fantastic shapes, thickly mantled with luxuriant woods, which fringe the precipitous sides of three enormous hills, from their base to their summit. Through this valley the Ystwith, a truly alpine stream, impetuous, foaming, and fierce, takes its course, sometimes darting from an open rocky ridge into a deep and dark abyss below; at others pouring through the foaming recesses of an impervious wood, and discovering its course only by the roaring of its waters, increasing its current as it flows by the addition of numberless little streams, which, leaping down the sides of the mountains in all directions, hurry to mingle themselves with it. The scene on quitting the wood gradually opens, and a

turn to the right leads to a sight of the mansion. The approach is very happily contrived, and the effect produced by the sudden appearance of a rich lawn, as the site of an elegant and majestic mansion, in the midst of some of the wildest and most dreary scenery of nature, is truly magical.

In the year 1783, the property of Havod having come into possession of the late Col. Johnes, by the decease of his father, he determined to make it his principal abode, and commenced those improvements of which he saw the spot susceptible: it could then be considered little better than a dreary waste.

From October 1795, to April 1801, the number of trees planted on this estate amounted to not less than 2,065,000, of which 1,200,000 were larches, exclusive of many acres sown with acorns; and for many years subsequently, plantations were made at the rate of 200,000 annually. The old house at Havod was taken down, and replaced by an elegant structure, built by Mr. Baldwyn, of Bath. This was a light and airy edifice, in the Gothic style, with pointed windows and pinnacles. The splendid library at Havod was adorned with a most valuable collection of books and manuscripts, which Mr. Johnes had at an immense expence brought together, and many of which were of the highest historical importance, including the collection of MSS. called Sir John Sebright's, in the Welsh language: together with some splendid illuminated manuscripts of Froissart, and several thousand volumes comprising a complete Don Quixote library, with other works of equal rarity. Many rare and valuable paintings, by the first masters, adorned the mansion; and in the grounds Mr. Johnes established a printing press, with all the necessary materials for carrying on large and extensive works. From this seclusion did Mr. Johnes commit to the press his translations of Froissart and Monstrelet's chronicles, and Joinville's and Brocquiere's memoirs.

In the year 1807, early in the morning of the 13th of March, this mansion, with nearly the whole of its contents,

was burnt down. The plate and linen were saved, but two of the most valuable paintings, the major part of the books, the fruit of forty years collection, perished. The origin of the fire never was satisfactorily ascertained; but it is supposed to have broken out in one of the servants' chambers. The extent of the loss has been estimated at £70,000, of which £20,500 was paid by the Insurance Offices. Mr. Johnes determined to restore his mansion in the best manner he could, and had it rebuilt in a similar style by Mr. Nash, and another collection of books was soon made. Previously to this accident Mr. and Mrs. Johnes had the affliction to lose their amiable and accomplished daughter Miss Mariamne Johnes, on the fourth of July, 1811. To improve his noble mansion Mr. Johnes lived after this event about nine years, and died at Exeter in 1816; his widow survived till 1833, and her remains were deposited by that of her husband and their only child, in the vault of the church within the grounds.

The estate, after being long in Chancery, was purchased in 1831, by the Duke of Newcastle, for about £62,000, who projected great alterations in the mansion, and was a most munificent benefactor to the neighbourhood. After purchasing several farms, and effecting considerable improvements both here and at the Inn at the Devil's Bridge, his Grace, in 1845, sold the estate to Henry Hoghton, Esq. for £92,000. This gentleman has commenced very extensive alterations in the mansion, or is rather rebuilding it, upon an enlarged scale, and in different style of architecture.

The tour of the grounds is best made on foot, and may be commenced from the lawn of the house by proceeding to the eastward, and passing across the river by the stone bridge at Tyloge. On reaching the opposite side of the river, a path conducts to a sequestered and romantic valley, through which a small stream flows from the southward, over a rocky and precipitous bed into the Ystwith. Soon after entering this glen, the loud roar of falling waters announces to the visitor his approach towards a cataract of no ordinary

magnitude: this fall, which is anticipated with lively interest, is not seen from the walk, even when the proximity of the noise assures the hearer that it is near at hand, being concealed behind a lofty projecting rock, which seems to stop all further progress; and indeed, formerly, the only view that could be obtained of it, was from a spot difficult of access on the other side of the stream, that commanded the recess into which the water is precipitated, but Mr. Johnes had a winding passage cut through the rock on the right, which brings the spectator suddenly in front of the fall, at about the middle of its descent, where it is beheld to the greatest advantage. At some periods, when the brook is swollen by floods from the mountains, the water rushes in a foaming torrent through the cavern, and descending the steps which lead to it from the walk, forms a new cascade of great beauty. Nothing could have been more happily contrived than the whole that has been done here by the hand of art. Standing on the narrow ledge half-way up the rock, with a perpendicular precipice below, and another of equal height above, the river sweeps on one side through the valley, and divides into two equal parts, harmoniously corresponding as well in magnificence as in extent. On the other side the largest of the mountain torrents, which embellish this glorious scene, forces its way with loud incessant roar down to the Ystwith. Cultivated fields intermix with all this wild beauty, a range of opposing hills, the church tower, and concomitant objects, bear along admiration from point to point, and excite a pleasing hesitation, whether to prefer the nearer or more distant objects, the ruder aspect of nature in her majestic mood, or the judicious effect of art to engraft convenience and improvement on the peculiarities of mountain scenery, without contending tastelessly against its character.

On emerging from the forest, the visitor arrives at a knoll, lofty, verdant, and unencumbered, which commands a still more extensive prospect of the valley, and embraces nearly

the whole region of Havod. After descending by steps of loose slate, whence the first jet of the whole stream is seen, a rude bridge leads across the channel of the torrent, and the path conducts on the other side of the torrent towards the Ystwith, which the visitor recrosses by the same bridge as conducted him thither. A road has been carried up the river, which is in many places cut through shelving precipices that overhang the stream; along the whole extent of this romantic road, the bed of the Ystwith lies over a mass of dark blue slate rock. The channel is occasionally so contracted as hardly to admit the passage of the water; in other parts it is interrupted and broken by ledges and precipices, which produce a succession of cataracts, endless in their variety, and of almost unrivalled wildness. A steep path leads from the road at the river side to the upper road leading direct from Havod to Pentrebriwnant: on gaining this, the prospect up the vale is terminated by that village and the heights in its rear. Returning down the river on the northern side, a road on the right winds into a narrow valley which affords another of those fine cascades that abound in these grounds; this is called the Piran fall, from the little mountain stream that flows through the glen. In dry seasons, when the water is scanty, it is divided into two parts; the upper portion after forcing its passage over some massive fragments of rock, terminates about midway down the descent, in a large natural basin, which at such times forms a very convenient bath; but when the brook has been swollen by rains, the water flows over the margin of this excavation, and rushes with great velocity and grandeur over the broken precipices to the more level channel beneath. A steep path leads hence to the church, which is situate on the left, higher up in the woods, and will be described hereafter. The visitor should now retrace his steps towards the Ystwith, and pursue its course along the path he left to proceed to the Piran fall. On regaining it, and entering one of the wildest spots in the wood, the visitor is led unexpect-

edly to a creation of fairy gaiety; a piece of ground about two acres in extent, has been laid out with exquisite taste as a flower garden. The ground gently declines to the south, and is enriched with a variety of rare shrubs. The direct path towards the house, from this delightful retreat, continues down the river, until it reaches the lawn; while another path winds up a deep ascent on the right, and conducts it to the summit of a bold rocky eminence where lies another flower garden, formerly dedicated to Miss Johnes's own care.

In a commanding posisition on the brow of this eminence, is an obelisk bearing this inscription :—

To the memory of the most noble
FRANCIS, DUKE OF BEDFORD:
this obelisk is erected by Thomas Johnes, as a testimony of the sincerity with which he, in common with every friend of the improvement of the country, laments the loss of the most judicious and munificent promoter of the
National Agriculture.

Besides the walks enumerated above, and which, from their vicinity to the mansion, are the most frequented by visitors, there are several others branching in various directions through the woods, and extending altogether to the length of ten or twelve miles, and all of which have been most judiciously laid out.

HAVOD CHURCH.

This church, called in Welsh Eglwys Newydd, stands within the precincts of Havod grounds, on an elevated bank to the right of the carriage road by which the house is approached from the Devil's Bridge. The situation is extremely beautiful, commanding a delightful view of the surrounding country; and the church itself forms a very

picturesque object in the landscape, from whatsoever point of view it is beheld.

The first church erected on the spot was built in the year 1620, by the Herberts of Havod. The original church stood at a place called Llantrisant, about three miles nearer the mother church of Llanfihangel y Croyddin, but was removed to the present spot for the convenience of the Havod family and the Cwmystwith miners. In consequence of the substituted edifice having fallen into decay, Mr. Johnes, about the year 1803, erected the present elegant structure on its site, from a design by Wyatt. During the Duke the Newcastle's tenure of the Havod property, he repaired the church, and replaced the pews by the present free benches; and the present owner, Mr. Hoghton, has entirely re-roofed the edifice. It is a cruciform church, having a square tower at one end; the font, placed in the centre of the church, is an octangular basin, supported by a small pillar: on one side of the basin are the arms of the Johnes family, and the other sides are ornamented with roses. The sides of the pillar, which is also octangular, bear eight figures, representing the cardinal virtues. The whole is made of artificial stone. The windows are lancet form; that in the south-west transept consists entirely of painted glass of very admirable execution, which was removed to this country from a church in Holland, during the French revolution: the subjects are from the New Testament. Several of the Herberts of Havod lie buried in this church, to some of whom monumental tablets have been raised. Miss Johnes, whose lamented death has been already mentioned, as well as both her parents, were also interred here. The marble monument, by Chantrey, to the memory of Miss Johnes, from a most elegant design, occupies the south transept. The figures are exquisitely sculptured portraits of the daughter, lovely even in death, and of her mourning parents—the father gazing in soul subdued grief, while the agony of the mother the artist has pictured by an

hidden and averted face rather than attempted to pourtray. The figures are of life size, and the work is considered one of the artist's ablest productions. The pedestal bears the following inscription,—

To the memory of
MARIAMNE,
the only child of Thomas and Jane Johnes, who died in 1811,
after a few days illness.
This monument is dedicated by her parents.

A short distance to the northward of the church the turnpike road to the Devil's Bridge may be regained, after passing first the lodge gate and Pwll Piran.

THE BORTH SANDS.

Next to the Devil's Bridge and Havod, a drive to the Borth Sands is the usual resort for an excursion to the visitors of Aberystwith. Quitting the town by the North Turnpike, the road begins immediately to ascend Penglais hill, leaving the Union Workhouse, built in a pleasing and rustic style of architecture, on the right, and Penglais, the seat of Roderick Richardes, Esq., delightfully situate, and commanding a full view of the principal streets of the town, on the left. On gaining the summit of the hill, a fine view presents itself of Pumlumon, and the mountains of North Wales in the distance; while to the right a glance is caught of part of the vale of Rheidol. A little beyond two miles on the roadside, the Cottage of the Blind Harper is passed, which is often visited by those who are desirous of hearing the genuine strains of the ancient Cambrian lyre, and where the party may refresh themselves after their walk or ride with tea and cakes. Next is passed the antique seat of the ancient family of the Pryses, at Gogerddan; though the house, situate in the lower ground, is not visible from the road. The surrounding lawn, and the Race Course, where the Aberystwith Races are held, with the well wooded

heights adjoining, give the idea of an extensive domain. On the left, and situate in the pleasing and fertile vale of Clarach, is Cwmcynfelin, the seat of M. D. Williams, Esq., enclosed amidst young and thriving plantations in every variety of foliage; and almost underneath is the new church of Llangorwen. These objects may be viewed more closely by those on horseback in returning by the old road from Borth. A village of cottages along the road is now passed, with the unmeaning name of Bow Street; and within a mile, a second village, with the meeting-house of Pengarn. A little beyond the fourth milestone, the Borth road diverges from the Machynlleth, and enters the vale of Llanfihangel Genau'rglyn, passing the vicarage, and the village with its church, which is sweetly situated in a sequestered spot under the hill, the churchyard with its peaceful tenants, occupying the side of it to a considerable extent upwards, and imparting a peculiar and most interesting appearance to the place, which has been faithfully described by a living poet in the following beautiful lines.

There is a spot beside a hill,
Where sleep the dead in holy ground,
Nor know I aught so sweet and still
As is the peace which there is found.
  There, where beneath the church-yard wall,
Adown the glen the waters fall
Beneath a tapering ash-tree's shade
Three graves are by each other laid.
  Around the very place doth brood
A strange and holy Quietude,
Where lingers long the evening gleam,
And stilly sounds the mountain stream.
  I know not if it is the scene,
Bosom'd in hills by the ravine;
Or if it is the conscious mind
Hallows the spot, and stills the wind,
And makes the very place to know
The peace of them that sleep below,

Investing nature with the spell
Of that strange calm unspeakable.
Methinks that both together blend
To hallow their calm peaceful end,—
The thoughts of them that slumber there,
Seem still to haunt the holy ground;
And e'en the spot and solemn air
Themselves partake that calm profound.
Methinks that He who oft at even
Brings stillness o'er the earth and Heaven,
Till mountains, skies, and neighbouring sea
Blend in one solemn harmony,
Hath caus'd e'en Nature's self to grace
Their sweet and holy resting-place.

On the summit of the hill, is an ancient fortification, often referred to in Welsh history as Castell Gwalter, or Walter's Castle. This fortress was erected by Walter l'Espec, one of the Norman invaders of this country, who had obtained some territories in this district at the same time with Earl Strongbow. In consequence of his pious donations to the church, the monkish historians have been very liberal in their praises both of his character and person.

The view from this fortress would well repay a visit, no less than fourteen fortified positions, according to some, being visible from it. As a relic of ancient times, it is very interesting; all the earthwork and the outlines being as perfect as when first thrown up. There is little further to arrest attention ere Borth is reached, except the pretty little village of Penybont, with its bridge over the Lery, and the farm of Henllys, which combine to form a pleasing landscape. The sands commence from the high ground on which the upper part of the village of Borth is situate, and extend a distance of four miles, with considerable width at low water, and are firm and smooth; a ride or drive over them on a fine summer's day, with the scenery of North Wales and its lofty ranges of hills fully developed, and in contrast with

the great level of the Dovey, is truly delightful. These sands extend to the northern extremity of Cardiganshire, at the estuary of the Dovey, where there is a ferry to convey travellers with their horses and carriages across to Aberdovey. The sands skirt a large fen, containing between nine and ten thousand acres of marsh and turbary land, called Gors Fochno, and are only separated from it by the natural bulwark formed by a bank of shingle, under the shelter of which the lower part of the village of Borth is built, composed of a long continuous street of cottages on the regular road to Aberdovey. It is inhabited chiefly by fishermen, and mariners engaged in the coasting trade, with their families, together with those who raise turf from the neighbouring turbary, and carry it for sale to Aberystwith. The population must be very numerous; and there are always hosts of the children in attendance on the visitors, offering for sale their collection of shells found on the sands, wild and untutored as the children of the desert. Two ladies, sisters, and inhabitants of Aberystwith, compassionating the condition of these children of the poor, brought up in idleness, without the means of obtaining even the rudiments of common education, built the excellent new school-house seen on the right hand side of the road to Aberdovey, aided by a partial subscription: the school is conducted on the National System. On Sundays, divine service is performed in the school-house at three o'clock, by the Vicar of the parish, or his Curate.

The former gentleman issued a circular, dated August, 1846, intimating that a gentleman has at his disposal the sum of £1600 towards building a church for the poor in Wales, and that this party has selected the village of Borth as most suited to his purpose, with the cordial approbation of the Bishop. He then states, that in order to avail himself of the offer, it will be requisite that an adequate endowment should be raised towards the maintenance of a clergyman, and that very little, if any thing, can be expected of the

inhabitants of the district, on account of their poverty: the district which it is in contemplation to form would contain a population of 900 souls. For this purpose a subscription has been commenced, which as yet has made little progress, a circumstance much to be deplored, considering the munificent offer made.

CANTREF Y GWAELOD, OR THE LOST LOWLAND HUNDRED.

These sands, and the coast adjacent, formed a part of the tract of ground called Cantref y Gwaelod, overwhelmed by an inundation of the sea about the year 520. The first account we have of this catastrophe is from part of one of the Welsh Triads, which, amongst the Three abandoned Drunkards of the Isle of Britain, reckons Seithenyn the son of Seithyn Saidi, king of Dimetia, who, when in a fit of intoxication, suffered the sea (by not attending to the sluices) to overflow the lowland country, where lands and habitations, the most beautiful in all Wales, excepting Caerleon on Usk, to the extent of sixteen cities and towns, were in a short period overwhelmed and destroyed.

According to the prevailing tradition, Cantref y Gwaelod is said to have occupied that portion of St. George's Channel which lies between the mainland and a line drawn from Bardsey Island to the Isle of Ramsey: the great boundary on the north was Sarn Badrig, or St. Patrick's Causeway, which runs out into the sea in a serpentine course two-and-twenty miles, from Mochras, on the coast of Merionethshire, between Barmouth and Harlech. This causeway is about 24 feet thick, and is very deep on the north side, but shelving and shoaly. On the other, at the end of Sarn Badrig, are sixteen large stones, one of which is four yards in diameter. The other causeways or roads that still shew the site of this wave-whelmed territory, are Sarn y Bwch, or the Goat's Causeway, which extends about a mile and a

half into the sea, not far from Aberdyssyni, near Towyn; and Sarn Cynfelin, or St. Cynfelin's Causeway, which extends seven miles into the sea, from Wallog, three miles to the north of Aberystwith: at the end of this causeway is Caer Wyddno, very foul and rocky ground, commonly called the Patches, where is supposed to have been the royal residence. The next is Sarn Dewi, or St. David's Causeway, extending about a quarter of a mile into the sea, and in a line with the church of Llanddewi Aberarth. The last is Sarn Cadogan, or Cadogan's Causeway, about a mile from Sarn Dewi, and near Aberaeron, reaching more than a mile and a quarter into the sea: besides these roads there is a great deal of ground that becomes dry at low water.

In confirmation of the tradition relating to this catastrophe may be quoted what Camden states,—"That at such time as Henry II. was in Ireland, by reason of an extraordinary violence of storms, the sandy shores of this coast were laid bare, and the face of the land appeared, which had been covered for many ages; also the trunks of trees which had been cut down, standing in the midst of the sea, with the stroke of the axe as fresh as if they had been felled yesterday, with very black earth and several blocks like ebony, so that it did not appear like the sea shore, but rather resembled a grove, by a miraculous metamorphosis, perhaps ever since the deluge, or else not long after, at leastwise very anciently, as well cut down as consumed and swallowed up by degrees by the violence of the sea continually encroaching upon and washing off the land."

We learn from Mr. George Owen, a learned and ingenious gentleman, who wrote a history of Pembrokeshire in 1590, that about twelve or thirteen years previously to that time, a precisely similar effect was produced on the sands of the Welsh coast, by the violence of the winds and tides, with the like results. Mr. Edward Llwyd, the naturalist and antiquarian, and the friend of Sir Isaac Newton, observed roots and stumps, at a low ebb, on the sands between Borth

and Aberdovey; but the most recent notice of this interesting subject is by the Rev. James Yates, M. A., F. G. S., and L. A., in a paper read at a meeting of the Geological Society in London, on the 7th of November, 1832, entitled, "An account of a Submarine Forest in Cardigan Bay:" he says, "This forest extends along the coast of Merionethshire and Cardiganshire, being divided into two equal parts by the estuary of the Dovey, which separates these counties: it is bounded on the land side by a sandy beach, and by a wall of shingle. Beyond this wall is a tract of bog and marsh, formed of streams of water, which are partially discharged by oozing through sand and shingle." The author argues, that as the position of the wall is liable to change, it may have enclosed the part which is now submarine, and that it is not necessary to suppose a subsidence effected by submarine agency. The remains of the forest are covered by a bed of peat, and are distinguished by an abundance of Pholas Candida, and Teredo Nivalis, among the trees of which the the forest consisted, is the Pinus Sylvestris, or Scotch Fir; and it is shewn that this tree abounded anciently in several northern counties of England. Besides those ridges or roads already referred to, a great deal of ground becomes dry at low water, more especially at the period of the spring tides, when those vast beds of peat or turf that extend along this part of the coast from Borth to Towyn, stretching to an unknown distance into the sea become partially visible, and the labourers who dig for turf beneath the sand, constantly meet with the stumps and trunks of trees imbedded in this submerged turbary.

The antiquary, Mr. Lewis Morris, mentions his having seen a stone found in the sands about a hundred yards below high water mark, on the coast of Merionethshire, which was a part of this drowned country, with an inscription in Roman letters; and there is an adage or proverb in the mouths of the people, in this part of Wales to this

very day, when any great tribulation assails them, they will exclaim,—

"Ochenaid Gwyddno Garanhir,
Pan droes y dòn dros ei dir."

Which is literally,—

The sigh of Gwyddno Garanhir,
When the wave turned over his land.

Such being the presumption for the credibility of the inundation, it remains to enquire at what period it took place. The common tradition assigns the event to the beginning of the sixth century: this, however, can be true only of a portion of the space included in the above description, for we have the authority of Ptolemy, the geographer, who lived in the second century, against it: he marks the promontories by which Cardigan bay is bounded, and the mouths of the rivers, in nearly the same relative situations which they retain at present, giving the latitude and longitude of each place according to his mode of computation. It is not improbable, however, to suppose that an event took place in the latter part of the sixth century similar to that which laid under water the lands of Earl Godwin, on the Kentish coast; and that the Lowland Hundred, the best portion of that fine territory already alluded to, on which the sea had been encroaching at different periods, was then swept away. The inundation is said to have happened about the year 520, in the reign of Emrys Wledig, or the Illustrious. The Lowland Hundred was the patrimony of Gwyddno, surnamed Garanhir, or Longshanks.

TALIESIN'S GRAVE.

Connected with Borth Sands, and partly in the same direction, lies Bedd Taliesin, or Taliesin's Grave, the place assigned by tradition as the spot where the renowned

Taliesin, the chief of bards, was buried. It is situate about two miles east of the hamlet of Tre'rddol, on the Machynlleth road, upon a mountain called Pensarn Ddu, between the rivers Ceulan and Clettwr, and consists of a large heap of earth, surrounded by two circles of stone, the innermost of which is 27 feet in diameter, and the outer one about 31 feet: in the centre of this is the "Cist," composed of six stones, five placed so as to make an oblong chest, and another for its cover; the covering stone has been taken off and thrown on one side, and measures upwards of 6 feet in length, and 3 feet 6 inches in width; the chest itself is 3 feet deep, and 2 feet 3 inches broad. From the account handed down to us, it appears that he was a foundling. After the inundation of Cantref y Gwaelod, the circumstances of Gwyddno, its last chief, were so straitened, that the only means he could allot for the maintenance of his son Elphin, was the produce of a fishing weir near Borth. It appears that this weir had for some time been unproductive, which caused Elphin great anxiety. One evening the keeper of the weir came to him, and informed him that a coracle, containing a male child, had been found in the weir on the preceding night. Elphin took compassion on the infant, and had him brought up with the greatest care; and finding the youth endowed with great natural talents, had him instructed in all the accomplishments and learning of the times. In after life, the poet had an opportunity of making some return for the kindness of his early patron and friend. This occurred when the course of events had so changed the position of Elphin and the poet, that the latter was chief bard and counsellor of Maelgwn Gwyneth, sovereign of North Wales, and the former was prisoner of Maelgwn in Diganwy castle. Taliesin lost no time in exercising his influence with the prince, and succeeded in procuring the release of the generous Elphin. How long the poet continued with Maelgwn is uncertain; but in more mature life we find him at the court of Urien Rheged, a Cumbrian prince, where,

to all appearance, he continued for many years. Urien, described in the triads as one of the Three Pillars of Battle of the Isle of Britain, was one of those British princes who opposed with great valour the inroads of the Picts and Saxons in the northern part of the island; but he was ultimately driven into Wales, whither he carried his hatred of the Saxons, establishing a sovereignty over a part of South Wales. He there evinced the same liberal patronage of the bards for which he was distinguished in his native land. Taliesin among others enjoyed his countenance and friendship, and has addressed several poems to him, in which he celebrates the warlike fame of his new patron, and enumerates the battles he had fought. The place where he spent the remaining portion of his life is supposed to have been the neighbourhood of Aberystwith; and this is the more probable, as nothing can be more in unison with our common nature than that, when life's fitful dream was nearly passed, the great bard should desire to return and spend the evening of his days amidst the scenes of his childhood, and yearn to yield his latest breath near the spot where he first drew it.

The memory of Taliesin is treated by his countrymen with the profoundest respect. The long vista of thirteen centuries, through which we contemplate his poetical renown, only adds to the halo that surrounds his cherished name. During all that period every succeeding poet willingly cedes to him the title of poetical supremacy, which was unhesitatingly granted by his contemporaries; but to comprehend the reverence that has always been paid to his memory, it is not enough to consider him as a poet—the gift of prophecy was attributed to him in addition to the inspiration of the poet; he had great influence over the Britons in the sixth century, and over their posterity for ages afterwards. For the purpose of animating his countrymen against their Saxon invaders, Taliesin prophesied the ultimate failure of the Saxons. He prophesied also the

eternity of the dominion of the Britons over the island, notwithstanding any temporary discomfiture, and the perpetuity of the ancient British language. Being a cotemporary of Arthur, he descanted on that prince's victories while alive; and when mortally wounded in the battle of Camlan, he still proclaimed that Arthur was not dead, but carried to the Isle of Avalon by the fairy Morgana, to have his wounds cured; and that eventually he would return with new vigour to drive the Saxons away.

There are about eighty poems handed down under the name of Taliesin, but they are almost unintelligible to the Welsh reader of the present day, from the Druidic lore which pervades the greater portion of them, and from the obsoleteness of their language. The themes of his muse are for the most part mystical, historical, or elegiac. His historical effusions are the most interesting.

We subjoin a translation, by the late Mr. Whitehead, of part of the poet's account of the battle of Argoed.

Morning rose, the issuing sun
Saw the dreadful fight begun;
And that sun's descending ray
Closed the battle, closed the fray.

* * * * *

Havoc, havoc, raged around,
Many a carcass strew'd the ground;
Ravens drank the purple flood,
Ravens' plumes were dyed with blood.
Frighted crowds, from place to place,
Rage hurrying breathless pale,
Spread the news of their disgrace,
Trembling as they told the tale.

About two or three miles up on the mountain, in the direction of Pumlumon, beyond a place called Nant-y-nôd, are two Druidical circles: one of these consists of seventy-

six upright stones, and is seventy-six feet in circumference; the other, a smaller one, lies still higher up the mountain. Not far from these, on the top of Moel-y-gaer, is an ancient British hillfort: indeed, the whole county teems with ancient fortified positions, which give reason to suppose this district must have been the scene of many a fierce intestine struggle.

STRATA FLORIDA ABBEY.

Within the compass of a day's excursion are the remains of the once celebrated Abbey of Strata Florida, seated in an elevated region, about sixteen miles east of Aberystwith, in the immediate neighbourhood of which are the celebrated Teifi pools. The road to this interesting spot lies through the South Gate; after passing which, the visitor should take the central road between that leading to the Devil's Bridge and the Cardigan road. A sharp turn to the left leads to the little valley of the Paith, displaying on the opposite side a delightful prospect of the lower portion of the valley of the Ystwith, and the unpretending little church of Llanychaiarn. At the distance of four miles and a half, Nanteos, the seat of Colonel Powell, M.P., and Lord Lieutenant of the County, comes in view on the left, situate in the very recesses of the valley, and embosomed in woods. The Colonel is a descendant of Sir Thomas Powell, Knt., one of the Judges of the King's Bench in 1704, whose son married the grand-daughter and heiress of the Joneses of this place. The mansion is a solid and substantial structure, with little of architectural embellishment: in the entrance hall and dining-room are many family portraits, and some Flemish paintings. The lawn and gardens are extensive, and well laid out.

The road thence ascends to the top of Penywern hill, where the valley of the Ystwith comes in view; descending the hill, the road runs parallel with the river as far as Llanafan bridge, passing, near the eighth milestone, Cross-

wood, the seat of the Earl of Lisburne, surrounded with woods, which skirt the road to the river's bank. This is a very ancient place, but repaired and modernized by its present possessor. Lord Lisburne is descended from Sir John Vaughan, Chief Justice of the Common Pleas in the reign of Charles II., who traced his lineage to Collwyn, a a distinguished chieftain of North Wales. A little beyond this, many bold cliffs covered with wood present features of grandeur little looked for. From Llanafan bridge, where the road separates from the new approach to the Lisburne Mines, the ascent is steep, till a small brook is crossed, which, a short distance below, precipitates itself a considerable depth into the romantic dell beneath. Tradition tells us that here a chieftain named Caradoc terminated his career, by throwing himself headlong into the abyss below, on experiencing a signal defeat, thence called Pwll Caradoc, or Caradoc's Pool. There is a monumental stone in Gwnnws churchyard, on the opposite side of the dell, supposed to be to his memory; its form is semi-cylindrical; it bears a cross, and an inscription nearly obliterated.

Proceeding to the village of Ystradmeirig are seen the remains, now inconsiderable, of a castle of some consequence which once stood there; it was built by Gilbert Strongbow, Earl of Clare, and was an outpost to his castle of Aberystwith. It shared the fate of the other fortresses in this county, being several times taken by the contending parties, in the wars of the Britons with their Anglo-Norman invaders, and with each other. Maelgwn, who possessed it in 1207, being threatened by Prince Llewelyn ap Iorwerth, and distrusting his means of resisting the attack, demolished the building; after which it is not mentioned in Welsh history. From the ashes which have been found among the ruins, it has been conjectured that it must have been destroyed by fire. But this sequestered retreat among the mountains has an object of still greater interest in the excellent Grammar School founded, endowed, and for many

years conducted, by Edward Richard, a native of this place, an eminent Welsh critic as well as an elegant pastoral poet, for the gratuitous education of thirty-two poor boys, natives of this county, in the Latin and Greek languages. Another endowment for forty boys, in the adjoining parish of Lledrod, was incorporated with it, and the united schools conducted by the late Rev. J. Williams for nearly half a century, with such credit and success, that, before the founding of Lampeter College, it was licensed for the education of young men for the ministry in the Established Church; and many are now reaping the fruits of their early education in this secluded spot, both in this Diocese and in more remote and more busy scenes.

The descent continues hence to the plain through which the Meirig passes. This stream is to be crossed near Rhos Fair, a short distance before entering a village on the Teifi, called Pontrhydfendigaid, or the Bridge of the Blessed Ford, so named, doubtless, by the Monks of the neighbouring Abbey; but a substantial bridge has now superseded here the ancient ford. It may also be useful to visitors to the Teifi lakes to be informed, that there is an inn here often used by sportsmen as their head-quarters, and which now affords comfortable accommodation. The road to the Abbey continues up with the Teifi, the distance of a mile, when the vicinity of the object of enquiry is announced by the presence of a plain, unadorned structure, which very humbly occupies part of the site of the ancient Abbey.

The Abbey of Strata Florida owed its origin to the princes of South Wales, Rhys ap Tewdor being, according to some accounts, its first founder, though his grandson, Rhys ap Gryffydd, in his charter dated 1184, sets forth that he built a monastery called Strat Flur, and endowed it with many possessions, which he confirmed in 1184, before many of his army in the church of St. Bridget, at Rhayader. The original structure, built probably by Rhys ap Tewdor, stood upon the banks of the tributary river Flur, about two miles

south-west of the present ruins, where an old building, now used as a barn, is called "Yr Hen Fynachlog," or the Old Monastery; and the name is derived from the original site, as Ystrad Flur signifies the plain of the Flur, which became latinized into Strata Florida. Afterwards Prince Rhys ap Gryffydd appears to have erected a more stately edifice, where the present remains bear the name of Strata Florida, in a spot better adapted for the purposes of the religious order to whose services he devoted it. This site, sheltered on three sides by lofty hills, while on the south flowed the stream of the infant river Teifi, was admirably suited the recluse and austere order of the Cistercians; and the severe virtues of that order were of the greatest service in that wild and then uncultivated country. The hospitality of the Monks was extended to all that visited them, and that must have comprehended all who travelled in those parts, as inns or houses of entertainment were then unknown. The welcome of this holy brotherhood was not confined to food and shelter, but the traveller on his departure had the assistance of a lay brother, or at least a servant, to act as his guide through the unfrequented passes of the mountains, until he arrived at some more frequented track. Besides the establishment at Strata Florida, there were several Hospices in different parts of the county belonging to this house, which, likewise, afforded shelter and entertainment to strangers and travellers. To most of these hospices, called in Welsh Yspyttys, oratories or chapels were annexed, which remain to this day as monuments of the piety as well as the opulence of the Monks of Strata Florida, as Yspytty Ystradmeirig, Yspytty Cenfaen, and Yspytty Ystwith:* Llanlleer, a nunnery of White Nuns, upon the river Aeron, was a cell of Stratflur.

The native princes of Wales assembled within its precincts

* The usually received account of the founding of these Hospices has been followed in this account, but a different opinion as to their origin has recently been advanced, for which see extract in pages 103, 104.

to assert the liberties of their country, and to maintain an independent government. In the year 1238, Prince Llewellyn ap Iorwerth summoned all the lords and barons of Wales to Ystrad Flur, where each of them swore to remain true and faithful subjects, and did homage to David, his son. To support such an establishment, the endowments of the Abbey were very extensive, and comprehended vast tracts of the surrounding country, extending as far as the river Elan, on the way to Llangurig, two thirds the distance towards Llandovery, and one third of the way to Builth. A glance at the map will at once shew the immense district in possession of the monks of Strata Florida; and besides these, they had considerable possessions at a distance. After the death of Caradoc, the Monk of Llancarvan, from the year 1157, the successions of the princes, and all things of moment that happened pertaining to Wales, were kept and recorded in the Abbeys of Conway, in North Wales, and Ystrad Flur, in South Wales. Sometimes the task was nothing more than to note down the daily occurrences, domestic and national; sometimes the materials collected from various sources were amplified with information to elucidate the subjects. The records thus kept in these Abbeys were compared together every third year, when the bards belonging to these two houses went their ordinary visitations; and to this source we are indebted for the continuation of the history of Wales, from the year 1156, till 1270, a little before the death of Llewellyn ap Gryffydd, the last prince of Wales. But with the dying freedom of their country, ended the chronicles of the Monks of Strata Florida: their pens refused to record the successes and the triumphs of the Conqueror; her altars were no longer frequented by the descendents of those who had raised them; the rude magnificence of an almost barbaric regal line, was no longer displayed at solemn seasons in her holy fane. She had enough to do to save a remnant of her vast possessions out of the lion's mouth, until, year after year,

broad manors and extensive tracts of country were forcibly wrenched out of her grasp; her influence drooped, as her lands and wealth dwindled away; the reverence of her sanctuary faded from the eyes of a people who pondered sullenly upon their captive and humiliating position.

Strata Florida became the burial place of many of the Welsh princes, and amongst them of Rhys ap Gryffydd, the founder; and from his time it continued the place of sepulture for the succeeding lords of his family. History has recorded the names of some who were deposited here; in the number are,

1184, Howel ap Ieuan, lord of Arustly.

1190, Owen ap Rhys, son of the founder, died at the Flur.

1197, Rhys ap Gryffydd, the founder.

1202, Gryffydd ap Rhys, son and successor of the founder.

1210, Mallt or Maud de Bruce, daughter of William de Bruce, the widow of Gryffydd ap Rhys.

1204, Howel ap Rhys, a blind son of the founder, slain in a fray with some of the followers of his brother Maelgwn.

1210, Isabel, daughter of Richard de Clare, Earl of Hereford, and wife of William Gam, lord of Gower.

1220, Young Rhys, son of Gryffydd ap Rhys.

1230, Maelgwn, son of Prince Rhys.

1235, Owen, another son of Gryffydd ap Rhys, a person of great worth, and exceedingly beloved.

It became likewise the asylum of genius and of learned men. Davydd ap Gwilym, the celebrated bard of this county, born at Broginin, about five miles from Aberystwith, who has been termed the Demetian nightingale, from the pathos of his elegiac strains, and by some compared to Ovid, by others to Petrarch, after an eventful and chequered life retired to his native parish, where he died about 1400, and was buried here under one of the yew trees of the cemetery, an epitaph placed on his tomb, the production of some bard who deeply deplores his loss.

Gwilym, bless'd with song divine,
Sleep'st thou then beneath this tree;
'Neath this yew, whose foliage fine
Shades alike thy song and thee.

Mantling yew tree, he lies near,
Gwilym, Teifi's nightingale;
And his song too slumbers here,
Tuneless ever through the vale.

1480, Gutyn Owen, one of the most distinguished poets of the fifteenth century, and equally celebrated as herald and historian, made this his principal abode, where he compiled the genealogical collections, and the sketch of British history, which bear his name, and are yet preserved. He wrote between 1460 and 1480, and on his death was interred here.

The heads of this house were summoned to take their share in their county's struggles against its invaders; sometimes in sufferings, devastation, and burning; sometimes as messengers of peace, and mediators between the steeled corslet and mailed hand of the Norman king, and the bare bosom of the British prince. The Abbots of Strata Florida, and of Conway, were deputed by their unfortunate sovereign, Llewellyn ap Gruffydd, in 1275, to be the bearers of his complaints against the intolerable oppressions of the lords of the marches. His remonstrance was addressed to the Archbishops of Canterbury and York, then sitting in convocation in London, entreating their good offices to obtain redress of the grievances specified, and which ultimately drove that unfortunate prince to the revolt which ended in his destruction. It is needless to add that the mission of the two abbots produced no mitigation of the stern policy of the English monarch, when the determination of annexing Wales to the English crown was already formed. We have no account of the part which the abbot took in the death-struggle for the independence of the principality; but that it was

favourable to Llewelyn, to the full extent of his influence, may be inferred from the abbot's acceptance of the mission alluded to, and also from the fate of the Abbey in the disastrous wars which followed the death of Llewelyn. It seems that the abbot of Strata Florida promised King Edward that on a certain day he would bring the whole county of Cardigan into amity with him; but when the king, with an armed force, expected the county to come in, no one appeared at the appointed time and place: therefore the king said in a passion, "Burn, burn," and so the fire wrapped both the Abbey and the country in a flame. To repair the damage, and to assist in rebuilding the edifice, Edward made an allowance of £78; and, in the document making the allowance, he says, that the Abbey was burnt against his will. For the next century, little mention is made of the Abbey, save that it was the most considerable monastery of the district; and that its fame was undiminished we may gather from the circumstance of the popular poet Davydd ap Gwilym being buried there during that period.

In the beginning of the next century, the war of Glendower broke out, and this venerable place again became the scene of English violence. Whether its politics were suspected to have a leaning still to the cause of Welsh independence, is not known, though that would explain the continued animosity displayed towards it by that nation. According to Pennant, Henry IV., in the beginning of the year 1401, destroyed the Abbey, and ravaged the country around, but was obliged to make a retreat from inability to subsist his troops. It was rebuilt, however, on the cessation of hostilities, but no further accounts have reached us until the time of Henry VIII., when this house, in common with all similar institutions, was dissolved by that monarch. Sisillus, Sitsylt, or Cecil, was Abbot here in the time of Giraldus Cambrensis; and in 1340, Llewelyn Vychan, or Vaughan; and Richard Tally, the last Abbot, in 1553, pensioned at £40 a year; and now the Reformation found this

venerable religious house with only seven or eight of her sons feebly and ineffectually watching over the ashes of the mighty princes entrusted to her charge; singing requiems over the graves of those who, dead to fame, dead to memory, and dead to their country's fate, had once lived to earn reputation by their virtues and heroic deeds—had once defied the Norman to lay hands upon the Welsh crown, and had themselves sunk to rest before their country's sun had set in clouds blood-red with oppression and treachery. Then followed the dismal night of ecclesiastical spoliation,—the seven poor old tottering religious men were ejected from their sanctuary—the mass was left unsung—the lamp before the altar was extinguished—the sound of living creatures passed away from the choir and the aisles—the mountain gust, while it sighed over the mausoleum of British princes, showered down upon their graves a storm of fragments torn from roof, and wall, and buttress; and thus, in centuries of never-ceasing decay, the ecclesiastical pile, with all its richness of ornament and elaborate carving, with its shrines and chapels, its paintings and storied windows, its rich furniture, its vessels of silver and gold, its columns, its arches, its fair proportions, its carved stone-work and wood-work, has literally vanished from the surface of that "blooming plain," over which it presided as a stately queen. It is as though the genius of Wales had sealed, beneath the weight of the Abbey's ruins, the sepulchres of her native princes; as though there should be left no trace either of civil or ecclesiastical grandeur for the future archæologist to meditate upon, and to frame his vision of the past from the skeleton remains of the present.

Leland's description of the building, when he visited it, is as follows,—"The chirch of Strateflere is larg, side ilid and crosse ilid. The fundation of the body of the chirch was made to have been 60 foote lengger then it is now. By is a large cloyster. The fratry and infirmitori be now mere ruins. The cæmiteri wheren the cunteri about doth

bury is very large and meanely waullid with stoone. In it be 39 great hue trees. The base court or camp afore the abbay is veri fair and large." The walls had glazed tiles affixed to them, in the style of the paintings met with in old missals, marked with quatrefoils; and these are frequently dug up, as are the tiles of the pavement, which consisted of intersecting circles: painted glass has also been found. Freestones, having circles touching each other as ornaments, are also found here; indeed, it seems that no expense was spared to make this a most magnificent building.

The present church-yard was part of the ancient cemetery, and in it stands the modern church, a plain, unadorned edifice, the meagre representation of that noble fane where kings worshipped, and laid their bones. The thirty-nine great yew trees seen by Leland, and under one of which Davydd ap Gwilym was buried, are gone, and the grave of genius is unhonoured and unknown. The cemetery was in extent about 120 acres, and leaden coffins were frequently found during the last century within its precincts. The Abbey House was formerly a grand building, erected at this place by John Stedman, Esq., out of the ruins of the out-buildings belonging to the Abbey, but is now a common farm-house, the property of Colonel Powell.

All that remains of the beautiful sanctuary which once was the depository of the history of the country, the asylum of poets, and the place of sepulture for princes, is one solitary arch forming the western entrance of the church. It is a round-headed Norman arch, and in its ornaments is said to resemble no other ancient specimen in the kingdom: the carving consists of six simple flutings, one within another, cut in such fine relief, that at a short distance it has the appearance of an arcade. These flutings make up so many co-ordinate arches, bound together by three croziers on either side. From the round heads of the arches which have been discovered, and other fragments of the ruins, it is apparent that the style of the building was the transition between Norman and Early

English, as Llanthony Abbey, Wenlock Priory, and other undoubted creations of the 12th century. In the year 1800, a fine silver seal was found in part of the land once occupied by the Abbey, by a boy ploughing; it is circular, and of the size of a crown piece. The arms of the Abbey were engraved upon it. In 1807, another seal of silver, and in shape of a Gothic ellipse, was found, which had belonged to an Abbot; the impression, a Virgin and Child.

Great interest was excited in these fast mouldering fragments of an age long since past, by a visit made to the ruins in September of last year, (1847,) by the members of the Cambrian Archæological Association, which, at that time, held its first meeting at Aberystwith. Certain spots selected for examination were for that purpose cleared of the incumbent ruins, and a portion of the pavement, with the foundation of the walls, laid open; two sorts of tiles were found, some in dark glaze, and others with white glaze. At the southern portion of the chancel, fragments of a casing to the wall was discovered, and under some of it a description of moulding, shewing very clearly that parts of the building were composed of portions of an earlier structure.

THE ASCENT OF PUMLUMON.

Of all the British Alps, none present to the eye of the traveller a bolder outline than the lofty hills that constitute the Pumlumon range; and few, if any, with the exception of Snowdon, carry to the mind of the Cambro-Briton so many interesting historical reminiscences. In the earlier periods of Welsh history, its extensive morasses were the scenes of many a contest; and the numerous Carneddau that crown its heights, with heaps of the slain, attest how severe those contests must have been. In later times, the exterminating warfare carried on here between Owen Cyfeilog, Prince of Powys, and Howell ap Cadogan, is in the recollection of every one moderately versed in Welsh history; and latest of all, it was here that the heroic Glendower made

his stand, when he first unfurled his banners to attempt regaining the lost sovereignty of the land of his ancestors. In the very bosom of these hills he fought the battle of Mynydd Hyddgen; and with his chosen band of 120 men-at-arms, set at defiance, and ultimately routed, 1500 of his Anglo-Normans and Flemish adversaries. Here, then, it may be said the Genius of Cambrian independence last hovered over her mountain home, and animated her children to one effort more before she abandoned them for ever. The effort was made, and however hopeless the struggle, no undegenerate son of Cambria will wish that the struggle had not been made, or had been less determined than it proved. The love of our country implies so many virtues that, like the honour of woman, no amount of other virtues can compensate for its absence: nor is it the least striking circumstance in the description of these mountains, that they furnish the sources of three rivers, the Severn, the Wye, and the Rheidol, all celebrated by poets, painters, and historians.

These mountains are three in number, Pumlumon Vawr, Pumlumon Is-llyn, and Pumlumon Vach, though only the first, from its pre-eminence in height, has generally, but erroneously, been so called. The three mountains bear the name of the Pumlumon range; yet each of these may again be more properly considered in itself as a vast group of mountains, piled one upon another. Pumlumon Vawr, the highest of the group, is ascertained to be at an elevation of 2463 feet above the level of the sea; the altitude of Snowdon is 3571; that of Cadair Idris 2914 feet. The summit of the highest, or of Pumlumon Vawr, may be called bifurcate, consisting of two small heads; and on the top of each is a Carnedd; that on the highest peak is of a pyramidical shape; on another part of the hill is a third Carnedd. These Carneddau are composed of stones heaped together, supposed to cover the remains of slain warriors.

The heads of Pumlumon Is-llyn, and Pumlumon Vach,

each also bears a Carnedd. The frequent civil wars amongst the Welsh, already alluded to, may have been the occasion of raising these heaps, as memorials of those who fell ; they served likewise as military beacons or watch-towers. The name of these mountains has been derived from the number of these beacons, as Pump-lumon, otherwise Pum lumon, signifies the five beacons ; besides these names there are others in this district frequently illustrative of military positions and occurrences, as Llechwedd Cwm Gwarchae, on the range towards Machynlleth, signifies the Slope of the Guards' Hollow ; Taren y Bwlch Gwyn, the Ridge of the White Defile, &c. It was a custom considered sacred by the Welsh in former times, for every one who ascended these hills to place a stone upon each of the Carnedds.

To make the ascent of Pumlumon, the best point to start from, is the Inn at Dyffryn Castell, whence a guide should be procured, as it is the most dangerous of the Welsh mountains to ascend alone, on account of its frequent bogs. The guide we procured, and who proved both intelligent and obliging, was Lewis Morgan, a miner, who lives within half a mile of the Inn. With him we proceeded to Steddfa Gurig, and followed the course of the Tarenig, a tributary of the Wye, till we came to the sources of the Wye itself, which are on the southern side of Pumlumon, and consist of many springs, which at last find one common course east inclining to south, towards Llangurig. We then proceeded to the sources of the Severn, more than a mile and a half beyond those of the Wye. The Severn rises in a powerful stream from the northern side of Pumlumon Vach, whence it descends as a mountain torrent, eastward towards Llanidloes, under the name of Hafren, traversing the narrow valley called Glyn Hafren. A chasm continues some yards above the principal fountain, and just above, over a ledge of rocks, in seasons of wet, flows water from another spring, which at times again is perfectly dry. How appropriate are the beautiful lines of the poet to such a scene as this.

Go up and watch the new born rill
Just trickling from its mossy bed,
Streaking the heath-clad hill
With a bright emerald thread.

Canst thou her bold career foretell
What rocks she shall o'erleap or rend,
How far in Ocean's swell
Her freshening billows send?

Perchance that little brook shall flow
The bulwark of some mighty realm,
Bear navies to and fro
With monarchs at their helm.

Or canst thou guess how far away
Some sister nymph, beside her urn
Reclining night and day,
'Mid reeds and mountain fern,

Nurses her store with thine to blend
When many a moor and glen are past,
Then in the wide sea end
Their spotless lives at last?

In the vicinity are several plants that usually have their habitats in mountainous marshes, as Vitis idæa, Butomus umbellatus, Carex pauciflora, Schænus nigricans, Scirpus lacustris, Scirpus palustris, and Eriophorum polystachion.

We thence took a level, as the guide termed it, straight for the highest point of Pumlumon. In our course we beheld, from the ridge above, the lake beneath, called Llyn Llygad Rheidol, or the Lake of the Eye of the Rheidol, the head-water of that stream, which is of a circular form. To find the sources of two rivers so long, so capacious, and yet so distant from each other as the Severn and the Wye, with that of a third, in a still different direction, of scarcely inferior beauty though of less volume, like the Rheidol, all

close together within the compass of three miles, and supplied from the springs of a single mountain, is one of those unexpected occurences with which nature delights to surprize the admirers of her boundless skill and power. So remarkable a feature has not been lost sight of; and Drayton has taken occasion from it to relate the story of Sabrine, Locrine's child.

* * * * * woe for thee,
Fair Elstred, that thou shouldst thy fairer Sabrine see,
As she should thee behold the prey to her stern rage,
Whom kingly Locrine's death sufficed not to assuage;
Who, from the bordering cliffs thee with thy mother cast
Into thy christen'd flood, the whilst the rocks, aghast,
Resounded with your shrieks, till, in a deadly dream,
Your courses were dissolved into that chrystal stream,
Your curls to curled waves, which plainly still appear
The same in water now that once in locks they were;
And, as you went to clip each other's locks before,
Ye now with liquid arms embrace the watery shore.

Milton, in his brief and elegant description of our rivers, speaks of "Severn swift, guilty of maiden's death;" but in his incomparable "Mask of Comus," he enters fully into her sad story, and makes Sabrine the Goddess of Chastity.

Sabrina is her name, a virgin pure,
Whilome she was the daughter of Locrine,
That had the sceptre from his father Brute;
She, guiltless damsel, flying the mad pursuit
Of her enraged stepdame, Gwenddolen,
Commended her fair innocence to the flood
That stay'd her flight with his cross flowing course.

A poetical fiction or legend once current amongst the mountaineers of this region is, that the five sister fountain-nymphs of Pumlumon agreed one summer evening to start early the next morning, and pay a visit to their father

Ocean. Vaga (the Wye,) by strictly observing the agreement, was enabled to meander through a more extensive tract of beautiful country than her sisters. Sabrina (the Severn,) starting somewhat later, could not indulge in so many deviations, while performing her journey, yet was enabled to traverse a fine region on her way to the sea. Rheidol, awaking still later, was constrained to take a shorter course, and the other two fountain-nymphs, (the Llyfnant and the Dulas,) by sleeping longer still, were compelled to make the best of their way, and deny themselves the pleasure of an extended excursion. These fictions have been embodied with much fancy by the Rev. Luke Booker, in his poem, called "The Springs of Pumlumon."

We now approached the top of the mountain; the surface of which exhibited patches of coarse grass, intermixed with heaps of loose stones and fragments of rock, among which are quantities of mixed and pure quartz. Amidst these blocks of quartz are numerous hillocks of peat earth, so light in dry and windy weather as to be driven about by the wind like sand hills near the sea coast.

Having propitiated the Genius Loci, by contributing our quota to the Carnedd's heap, the view from the summit, though not clear to the west, claimed our attention. This is very extensive. To the south, the hills of Cardiganshire appear beneath like so many hillocks, expanding for a great extent in various directions. Cardigan Bay, and St. George's Channel, appear to the west; and to the north, Cadair Idris and part of the Snowdonian chain: to the north-east the Breiddin hills, with the vale of the Severn, as far as Newtown; and to the east, parts of the counties of Hereford and Salop. From the summit we commenced our descent towards the south, and crossing Bryn Peithnant, and some intervening ridges, arrived again at the Inn at Dyffryn Castell, fully prepared to relish the repast provided for us. The course we have sketched we would recommend to any party purposing a similar excursion, as the best calculated to embrace all the

objects of interest to be witnessed in the ascent of Pumlumon.

RIVER AND LAKE FISHING.

To the votaries of the piscatory art, Aberystwith affords opportunities of enjoying their favourite pursuit, seldom equalled, as it is the centre of a country abounding in lakes and streams, having for its boundary the Dovey on the north, and the Teifi and the Aeron on the south. The trout fishing in the Rheidol and the Ystwith has certainly been deteriorated by the waste water from the Mine Works, since those works have been in active operation, as far up the river as they extend; but beyond that point, and above the Goginan Mine, on the one stream, and the Cwmystwith on the other, these rivers still abound in trout, though generally small in size. Besides the Rheidol and the Ystwith, there are on the north, the Clarach, the Lery, and the Clettwr; and to the south, the rivers Paith, Wyre, and Aeron, all within an easy distance, varying from two to twenty miles.

The Teifi is certainly one of the best, if not the very best, salmon, trout, and sewin river in South Wales. The former are excellent; the latter larger and better conditioned than those of other streams. The nearer the sportsman ascends towards its source, the more productive it becomes. Above Lampeter, trout of three and four pounds are by no means uncommon: thirty pounds weight may be taken in a day by fly-fishing or trolling with either the artificial or natural minnow. A species of salmon-trout, called in Welsh, Brych, *pl.* Brychiaid, (the Speckled,) swarm in the Teifi in the spring of the year, and about September and October; they weigh from three to fifteen pounds each, and are also to be caught at the mouths of the Rheidol, the Ystwith, and the Lery.

The lakes of Cardiganshire afford excellent trout fishing.

The different abilities of the Brothers of the Angle may here be truly tested, for the ease or difficulty of taking the fish is as various as these lakes are numerous. In some a hundred brace in a day may be caught by a mere Tyro in the gentle craft, whilst in others the nicest skill of the consummate artist will not take half a dozen; but it should be borne in mind that the latter half dozen from their fine size, and superlative quality, are in all senses, as well piscatorial as culinary, worth any amount of the former.

Llyn Pen Rhaiadr is a small lake on the north side of Pumlumon, about twelve miles from Aberystwith. It contains very fine trout and eels, as well as tench which have lately been introduced. Trout have been caught weighing three pounds, and though they are not "pink," as it is called, that is, do not cut red, still they are of very good flavour. To fish here, a card is necessary, signed by Mr. Pryse, of Gogerddan, who being the proprietor strictly preserves it.

Llyn Llygad Rheidol is another on Pumlumon, about three miles south of the former, and the source of the river which passes under Aberystwith bridge. It abounds with small trout, of which from ten to twenty dozen may almost any day be taken by any one possessed of even moderate skill.

Fossett's pond, and another adjoining, are two large artificial pieces of water, made recently for the purpose of supplying the machinery of the Goginan and other mine works. These are situated eight miles east of Aberystwith, and contain some of the finest trout in the principality, but as yet few in number and not readily taken.

Llyn Iwan, under which name there are two, upper and lower, and Llyn Rhyddnant, which is the source of the Mynach and the falls under the Devil's Bridge, are five miles east of this most romantic scene. They are full of small fish, but not worth the attention of the experienced angler.

Proceeding to the south on a hill facing Havod, is a lump of rock called in Welsh Carreg Naw Llyn, that is the Stone of Nine Lakes, for from the summit of this, may be seen the whole nine lying on different sides. Of these Llyn Gwngi, Llynoedd Cerrig Llwydon, (these are two) Llyn Vyrddon Vawr, and Llyn Vyrddon Vach, contain only the smaller description of trout, though the Cerrig Llwydon are worth a visit for the wild beauty of the scenery, and the very brilliant colours of their diminutive fish.

The Teifi lakes form a part of the "nine," at least the four which happen to be in sight, for under this name are comprised a cluster consisting also of the mystic number of nine. These all contain very splendid trout, unsurpassed for the delicate flavour of their flesh, which is as red as that of salmon, and as regards the one called Llyn Hir, or the "Long Pool," of large size, being sometimes found of four pounds weight. The village of Rhydfendiged, fifteen miles from Aberystwith, is a commodious and agreeable fishing station within an hour's walk, where also the agreeable variety of river fishing, in perhaps the best trout stream in Wales, is abundantly afforded, for the celebrated Teifi, as yet not more than three miles from its parent lakes, passes within a few yards of the "Red Lion," where there is sufficient accommodation of bed and board, and where also may be found the famous fisherman and guide, David Davies.

On the road side leading to the market town of Tregaron, about half way, is Llyn Maesllyn, in which are trout, eels, and tench. It is closely preserved by the Earl of Lisburne.

Five miles on the mountains above Tregaron, at an elevation of 1640 feet above the sea, is Llyn Berwyn, a very fine piece of water where are plenty of good trout, which, with tolerable tackle and a good breeze, may be taken very readily.

There are two more lakes well worth the angler's attention. These are called Llyn Aeddwen and Llyn Vanod. They are about eight miles south of Aberystwith, and contain "pink"

trout not exceeding a pound weight. The fish are remarkably "shy," and it is adviseable that no one should rely implicitly on a fish dinner from these, even though there were present the skill of an "Ephemera," and "Will Blacker" to boot. Nevertheless, fine dishes have occasionally been caught, and will be again without doubt, but as has just been remarked, if you calculate on doing so in an off hand sort of way, it is ten to one, but that *you*, and *not the trout*, will be "done brown."

The most desirable stations, and these are really worth visiting, are to be found, since the revival of mining operations, exclusively on the river Teifi. The first, and perhaps the best, is Pontrhydfendiged, where the beautiful lakes are within an easy walk, and the river is the *beau ideal* of an (unpreserved) trout stream. Six miles lower is the little town of Tregaron, with Llyn Berwyn: three miles further is the very pretty retired village of Llanddewi-brefi, famous in history as having been the scene of the Synod, which was held in the sixth century for the suppression of Pelagianism, on which occasion it is said (and sometimes believed) that St. David of blessed memory preached with such vigour, that a small mountain quietly arose under his victorious feet, and on which, to commemorate the event, the present church has been built! Lampeter is the next station, but as they are numerous and all very good, it is sufficient to say that there are everywhere clean and nice villages at short intervals on its banks, until it reaches the sea, which it does at Cardigan, after having traversed a distance of more than fifty miles.

SEA WEEDS.

A great source of gratification and amusement to the visitors at Aberystwith being the collecting and arranging the beautiful variety of sea weeds in which the shingly beach abounds, especially after stormy weather, it may not be undesirable to have some account of the different species

of marine plants, accompanied with a few hints for preparing and preserving them.

The Marine Algæ, according to naturalists, are flowerless plants, the growth of the sea. Their structure is very simple, consisting, in some species, of strings of cellules adhering together; others present the appearance of branched threads, which in those of a more perfect structure, are joined together and form the stem and branches. Many Algæ are parasitical on the larger species; others have knob-like or fibrous roots, by which they adhere to rocks, stones, shells, and other substances. It is doubted whether they derive any nourishment from these roots, which seem to partake more of the character of clasping fibres than of a true root. The fructification of the Algæ is in general very minute, and consists either of wart-like minute bodies termed capsules, or of spots variously disposed, in or upon the surface of the fronds, called granules: some plants bear both these kinds of fruit. Many species of the fucoidæ are furnished with air vessels, which float them in the water; the olive green series contains plants of the most perfect structure, and largest size; the red series are remarkable for the delicacy of their tissue, and for possessing a double system of fructification, both capsular and granular; while the grass green series possess the simplest structure, and their seeds, at certain periods, are endowed with a singular power of locomotion.

Of the *olive green* series, the first in order are the fucus tribe. The sea weeds contained in this tribe, are of rigid or leathery texture, not adhering to paper. Many of the species are found growing in pools among the rocks, when the tide is out; all the species of Fuci, and the curious Himanthalia Lorea, (or Sea Thongs), may be met with on our rocky shore.

Next are the Laminareæ, very different from the preceding class. Their fronds are like large leaves or pieces of ribbon; this species is known commonly as sea girdles or sashes.

Another tribe, very common on this coast, is the Chorda Filum, or String-like Chord, commonly called Sea Laces.

Of the *red* series, or marine plants of a purplish red, or fine rose colour, and of a leathery or a membranaceous substance, and cellular texture. This is a striking and beautiful tribe, containing the Delesseria, with perfect leaf-like fronds of a rose-red colour, the paler and more delicate Nitophilla, and the delicately-branched and feathery species of the Plocamium and Ptitota; the former of a light pinky red, the latter very dark crimson, nearly black when dried. But besides these, there are others belonging to this exquisitely-beautiful tribe, particularly the Delesseria, the stem of which is cartilaginous, bearing beautiful large rich rose-red fronds, in shape and colour like the leaves of the Red Dock: in the summer the fronds are large, with a waved margin; the substance is delicate, adhering firmly to paper. This beautiful plant grows on the stems of the larger Algæ, and on rocks in the sea; it is very common on our shore, and is particularly plentiful this season. Of the Plocamium Coccineum, Scarlet Plocamium: this beautiful plant is very common on our shores, the fronds are much branched and feathery, small ramuli or branches with comb-like divisions in colour, a fine pinky red, delicate in substance, and very easy to spread out, only requiring to be laid in a plate, with sufficient water to float the branches, though liable to vary considerably in size, and in true proportion of its parts: a single glance at the singularly beautiful division of its branches, is at all times sufficient to distinguish it, and it is one of the most beautiful Algæ in the world, and an universal favourite.

Of the third, or *grass green* series, many of the species comprised in this series are not marine plants, but inhabitants of fresh-water pools or ditches; and the marine plants of this tribe are often of an irregular or tubular shape, and soft membranaceous texture, adhering firmly to paper. Of the Porphyra, a species of this order is known under the name of Laver in England; the fronds, after being well boiled, are

brought to table, and eaten with meat as a vegetable: it is found upon this coast.

Directions for Collecting and Preserving Sea Weeds.

In collecting Sea-weeds, be careful to gather those either growing in the pools left by the tide, or that have been recently thrown up by the sea; for if they be exposed to the sun and air, they soon decompose, and lose their colour. The best time for procuring Sea-weeds is at the very low tides, when many of the rarer species may be found. For carrying them in, use either a basket lined with oil-skin, or a bag of that material. Many of the delicate Floridæ and Ceramieæ require the greatest care, and must be laid out as soon as possible; first ascertaining by a small magnifying glass, or, better still, a microscope, whether the plant is in fruit; and if so, whether it is *capsular* or *granular*. The laying down process is done in this manner:—First wash the Sea-weed in fresh water; then take a plate or dish, cut your paper to the size required, place it in the plate with fresh water, and spread out the plant with a good sized camel-hair pencil in a natural form, (picking out with a pin gives the Sea-weed an unnatural appearance, and destroys the characteristic fall of the branches, which should be carefully avoided;) then gently raise the paper with the specimen out of the water, placing it in a slanting position for a few moments, so as to allow the superabundant water to run off: after which, place it in the press. The press is made with either three pieces of board, or paste-board. Lay on the first board two sheets of blotting paper; on that lay your specimens; place straight and smooth over them a piece of *old* muslin, fine cambric, or linen; then some more blotting paper, and place another board on top of that, and continue in the same way. The blotting paper and muslin should be carefully removed, and dried every day, and then replaced; at the same time those specimens that are sufficiently dried may be taken away. Nothing now remains but to write on each the name, date, and locality. You can

either gum the specimens in a scrap book, or fix them in, as drawings are often fastened, by making four slits in the page, and inserting each corner. This is by far the best plan, as it admits of their removal, without injury to the page, at any future period, if it should be required either to insert better specimens, or intermediate species. Some of the larger Algæ will not adhere to paper, and consequently require gumming. The following method of preserving them has been communicated to me by a botanical friend:—"After well cleaning and pressing, brush the coarser kinds of Algæ over with spirits of turpentine, in which two or three small lumps of gum mastic have been dissolved, by shaking in a warm place; two-thirds of a small phial is the proper proportion, and this will make the specimens retain a fresh appearance."

It will be seen, from the foregoing directions, that a collection of Sea-weeds may be formed with very little trouble. Unlike flowers, whose beauty entirely disappears when dried, Sea-weeds retain their varied and tender hues unaltered for a length of time. Many of the finer species, from the extreme thinness and delicacy of their substance, present an evenness of surface and a glossy appearance, which often lead persons viewing them for the first time to suppose they are paintings.

PLANTS FOUND IN THE NEIGHBOURHOOD.

The botanical productions of the maritime and alpine districts of this neighbourhood are exceedingly numerous, as well as rare and curious. To particularize the whole would be to compose a nomenclature: suffice it then to notice a few as specimens of the whole. Amongst others, one of the most beautiful indigenous plants of Great Britain, Pulmonaria Maritima, whose habitat is almost exclusively confined to Wales, is met with on the beach below Borth Sands; and the surprising vegetable automaton, the Ruppia Maritimum, or Sea Tassel Grass, is found on the road to Aberdovey. About the cliffs, both to the north and south

of Aberystwith, the Crithmum, or Samphire plant, is very abundant, and is commonly brought to market.

Amongst the sandy hillocks, on the same road, is the Arundo Arenaria, a most useful plant on low shores, which fixes by its long roots the driving sand, and so forms a barrier to the encroaching sea.

The plants comprized in the following list are amongst those met with in this neighbourhood.

Class.	Order.	Name.	Locality.
2	1	Lycopus Europæus	
3	2	Arundo Arenaria	
4	1	Plantago Maritima	
„	„	„ Coronopus	Sands going to Aber-
„	„	„ Lanceolata	dovey
„	„	„ Media	
„	„	„ Major	
„	3	Sagina Procumbens	
„	„	Radiola Millegrana	Fields near Reservoir
5	1	Lycopsis Arvensis	
„	„	Echium Vulgare	
„	„	Anagallis Tenella	Sandy fields going to
„	„	„ Arvensis	the Dovey
„	„	Convolvalus Soldanella	Fields near Reservoir
„	„	Jasione Montana	
„	„	Viola Lactea	
„	„	„ Lutea	The woods about Castle
„	„	Hyoscyamus Niger	Hill and other places
„	„	Solanum Dulcamara	
„	„	Chironia Littorallis	
„	„	„ Pulchella	
„	2	Chenopodium	
„	„	Eryngium Maritimum	
„	„	Daucus Maritimus	
„	5	Statice Armeria	
10	3	Silene Maritima	
„	„	Arenaria Peploides	
„	„	„ Trinervis	
„	„	„ Marina	

Class.	Order.	Name.	Locality.
„	4	Cotyledon Umbilicus	
„	„	Sedum Anglicum	
„	„	Cerasticum Alpinum	
„	„	Spergula Pentandra	
13	1	Actæa Spicata	
„	„	Glaucium Luteum	
„	„	„ Phœniceum	
„	„	Papaver Cambricum	
14	1	Lamium Amplexicaule	Among pebbles & sand
„	„	Stachys Arvensis	Corn fields
15	1	Cochlearia Anglica	
„	„	Coronopus Ruelli	
„	„	„ Didyma	
„	„	Cakile Maritima	From Aberdovey
„	„	Crambe „	
16	2	Erodium Cicatarium	
„	„	„ Moschatum	
„	„	„ Maritimum	
„	8	Althœa Officinalis	
„	„	Lavatera Arborea	
17	4	Ononis Arvensis	
„	„	Anthyllis Vulneraria	
„	„	Ervum Hirsutum	
„	„	Ornithopus Perpusillus	
„	„	Trifolium Arvenda	
„	„	„ Soffocatum	
„	„	Medicago Sativa	
17	„	„ Maculata	
18	4	Hypericum Pulchrum	
„	„	„ Humifusum	
„	„	„ Perforatum	
19	1	Hieracium Umbellatum	
„	„	Cichorium Intybus	
„	2	Gnaphalium Germanicum	
„	„	Senecio Vulgaris	
„	„	„ Sylvaticus	
22	5	Humulus Lupulus	Growing in hedges wild
Lin'aria Répens, Creeping Pale-blue Toadflax			Field near Workhouse

Bidens Tripartata	Three Cleft Bur Marygold
Malva Moschata	Musk Mallow
Gnaphalium Minimum	Least Birdweed
Epipactis Latifolio	
Antirrheneum Minus	Lesser Snapdragon

TIDE TABLE.

We are indebted to Mr. Richard Page, Harbour Master at Aberystwith, for the subjoined Tide Table, which has been calculated for this part of the Irish Channel, and to meet the average variations.

Moon's Age.		High Water.		Low Water.		Height at Pier Head.	
		Hours.	*Min.*	*Hours.*	*Min.*	*Feet.*	*Inch.*
New.	Full.	7	30	2	0	17	0
Days.	Days.						
1	16	8	15	2	45	17	6
2	17	9	0	3	30	17	0
3	18	9	45	4	15	16	6
4	19	10	30	5	0	16	0
5	20	11	15	5	45	15	0
6	21	12	30	6	30	14	0
7	22	1	30	7	30	13	0
8	23	2	15	8	15	12	0
9	24	3	0	9	0	12	0
10	25	3	45	10	15	12	3
11	26	4	30	11	0	13	0
12	27	5	15	11	45	14	0
13	28	6	0	12	30	15	0
14	29	6	45	1	15	16	0

The following are the Sailing Directions for entering Aberystwith Harbour, as given in the book which accompanies the Chart for navigating St. George's Channel.

In running for Aberystwith, steer boldly in for the bottom of the bay, and as you approach towards the land, at the distance of twelve to fifteen miles, you will make Pen Dinas Hill, (just within the entrance and close to the shore), which rises steep on the south,

leaving a kind of opening or valley between it and the next hill, taking care to avoid the Patches, (a shoal composed of large stones and sand,) on the south-west end of which is a chequered (black and white) buoy, bearing N. W. by W., by compass, from Pen Dinas Hill, distance nine miles, which dries in places with low spring ebbs; it extends E. N. E. towards the land, leaving a Swashway between it and the shore, fit only to navigate by those who are acquainted with it, and should not be attempted by a stranger, except at high water. The Swashway bears N. N. W. from the Old Ruined Castle north of the harbour, which is a very striking object in approaching the harbour, also a white row of houses north of the Castle, along the beach, appears very conspicuous, and points out the vicinity of Aberystwith.

Vessels running for the harbour will perceive two land marks (white moveable boards), in a field at the foot of Pen Dinas Hill, these are to kept in one, and when there are nine feet water in the harbour, a black ball and a red flag with white letters, A. H., will be hoisted on the mast at the outer end of the pier, and kept flying till the water has fallen again to nine feet. Vessels running for the harbour at night *must show a light.* When there is water as above stated, *two bright lights will be fixed on the leading marks or white boards;* these lights are to be kept in one; they lie about S. S. E., and are hid by the pier, till they are brought near these bearings; also a red light on the outer end of the pier, as a signal to make the harbour. The lights are kept up till the water has fallen to nine feet. High water at full and change, 7h. 30m.; high water, lowest neaps, from 1 to 3 o'clock. Height of tides, full and change. 16 to 18 feet; height of tides, lowest neaps, 11 to 12 feet. Winds from S. to W., bring the highest tides; wind from N. to E., bring the lowest tides.

WEATHER TABLE.

There are few matters that interest sojourners at the sea side more than the weather; we therefore subjoin a Table, which, if it does not furnish the means of predicting with certainty what description of weather is about to ensue, will, at least, afford them amusement in speculating on the probability of its duration or change.

Time of New or Full Moon, or of entering the First or Last Quarter.	Weather likely to follow during the Quarter.	
	In Summer.	In Winter.
12 Noon to 2 After.	Very Rainy.....	Snow or Rain.
2 After. to 4	Changeable.....	Fair and Mild.
4 ..... to 6	Fair.....	Fair.
6 ..... to 10	Fair, if wind N. W. Rainy, if S. or S.W.	Fair, Frosty, if N. or N. E. Rain or Snow if S. or S.W.
10 ..... to 12 Mid.	Fair.....	Fair and Frosty.
12 Mid. to 2 Morn	Fair.....	Hard Frost, unless S. or W.
2 Morn. to 4	Cold, with Showers...	Snow and Stormy.
4 ..... to 6	Rain.....	Ditto.
6 ..... to 8	Wind and Rain	Stormy.
8 ..... to 10	Changeable.....	Cold Rain, if wind W. Snow, if E.
10 ..... to 12 Noon	Frequent Showers....	Cold, with high Wind.

Remarks.—Hence, the nearer the time of the Moon's entrance, at full, change, and quarters, is to midnight, that is, within two hours before and after midnight, the fairer the weather will be in summer; but the nearer to noon, the less fair. Also the Moon's entrance, at full, change, and quarters, during six of the afternoon hours, namely, from four to ten, may be followed by fair weather; but this is mostly dependant upon the wind. The same entrance, during all the hours after midnight, is, with the exception of the two first, unfavourable to all weather. The same may be observed in winter.

DISTANCES FROM ABERYSTWITH TO THE FOLLOWING PLACES,

WITH THE DIFFERENT ROUTES PARTICULARIZED.

To Shrewsbury, by the Devil's Bridge, 76 miles.

Devil's Bridge	12
Llanidloes	20
Newtown	13
Welshpool	13
Shrewsbury	18
	76

To Shrewsbury by Machynlleth, 74 miles.

Machynlleth	18
Mallwyd	12
Cann Office	12
Llanvair	7
Welshpool	7
Shrewsbury	18
	74

To Shrewsbury, by Llanbrynmair, 78 miles.

Machynlleth	18
Llanbrynmair	11
Carno	7
Newtown	11
Welshpool	13
Shrewsbury	18
	78

To the Ruabon Station, on the Chester and Crewe Railway, 68 miles.

Machynlleth	18
Dolgelley	16
Bala	18
Llangollen	10
Ruabon	6
	68

To Gloucester through Hereford, 111 miles.

Ponterwid	12
Dyffryn Castell	2
Steddfa Gurig	3
Rhayader	18
Penybont	10
Kington	14
Hereford	19
Ledbury	17
Gloucester	16
	111

To Llandrindod Wells, 44 miles.

Rhayader by Devil's Bridge	30
Penybont	10
Llandrindod Wells	4
	44

To Bangor Station, on the Chester and Holyhead Railway, 85 miles.

Machynlleth	18
Dolgelley	16
Tanybwlch	18
Beddgelert	10
Carnarvon	14
Bangor	9
	85

To Beddgelert, by Llangollen, Barmouth, & the Coast, 76 miles.

Dolgelley	34
Barmouth	10
Harlech	10
Tanybwlch	8
Tremadoc	8
Beddgelert	6
	76

To Carmarthen, 51 *miles.*

Aberayron	16
Lampeter	13
New Inn	11
Carmarthen	11
	51

To Tenby, 80 *miles.*

Carmarthen	51
St. Clear's	9
Tavernspite	7
Cold Blow	4
Tenby	9
	80

To Swansea through Carmarthen, 79 *miles.*

Carmarthen	51
Cross Hands Inn	14
Pontardulas	5
Swansea	9
	79

To Swansea through Llandilo, 66 *miles.*

Lampeter	29
Llandilo	14
Swansea	23
	66

To Cardigan, 39 *miles.*

Aberayron	16
Cardigan	23
	39

To Brecon (or Brecknock) by Rhayader, 60 *miles.*

Devil's Bridge	12
Pentrebrunant Inn	3
Rhayader	15
Builth (or Buallt)	14
Brecon	16
	60

To Brecon by Llandovery, 67 *miles.*

Aberayron	16
Lampeter	13
Llandovery	18
Trecastle	9
Brecon	11
	67

To Barmouth by the Borth Sands, (subject to the state of the tide) 26 *miles.*

Borth	6
Moelynys	3
Aberdovey (ferry)	2
Towyn	4
Barmouth	11
	26

To Barmouth by Machynlleth, 44 *miles.*

Dolgelley	34
Barmouth	10
	44

THE END.

J. COX, PRINTER, ABERYSTWITH.

H. HUMPHREYS,

DISPENSING CHEMIST,

Medical Hall,

AND 18, TERRACE ROAD,

(One Door from the Terrace,)

ABERYSTWITH.

PHYSICIANS' PRESCRIPTIONS CAREFULLY PREPARED.

Importer of Genuine Eau de Cologne.

HAVANNAH CIGARS.—FRENCH SCENTS.

BOURDEAUX VINEGAR.

FINE BLACK AND GREEN TEAS.

LOAF SUGAR.

Fish Sauces and Pickles.

BELMONT, WAX, AND SPERM CANDLES.

VERMICELLI AND MACCARONI.—FANCY SNUFFS.

GINGER AND OTHER BRITISH WINES.

PATENT MEDICINES.

Brushes and Combs.—Lemonade and Soda Water.

A CONSTANT SUPPLY OF LEECHES.

J. BOWNE,

(Successor to Mr. Benson,)

IMPORTER OF

FOREIGN WINES & SPIRITS,

PIER STREET,

ABERYSTWITH.

WINES PER DOZEN.

Port, old in wood	36s.	Bronte Madeira, (Dinner Wine)	30s.
Ditto, superior and crusted...	42s.	Vidonia	38s.
Ditto, very choice old....	48s.	Calcavella, rich	38s.
Sherry, superior (Pale)	42s.	Bucellas, very old	38s.
Ditto, very superior old (do.)	48s.	Champagne, first quality ...	84s.
Ditto, ditto (Brown)	48s.	Claret, first growth	84s.
Madeira, West India, first quality	48s.	Hermitage, first quality, Red	72s.
Ditto, East India, best old...	72s.	Burgundy, very fine Red ...	60s.
Teneriffe, best quality.....	38s.	Sauterne, ditto.....	60s.
Cape Madeira, ditto	24s.	Hock, Rudesheimberg, Pints	42s.
Marsala, (Dinner Wine) ...	30s.	Moselle	56s.
		Tent, Pints	27s.

SPIRITS PER GALLON.

Brandy, finest old Cognac, Pale or Brown	26s.	Gin, good London	11s.
Rum, best old Jamaica	16s.	Whiskey, best Irish	16s.
Hollands, (Schiedam).....	26s.	Ditto, very fine old Scotch...	21s.
Gin, best old London.....	13s.	British Brandy	16s.

MARASCHINO DI ZARA, NOYAU, ET CURACOA, 15*s. per Bottle.*

CHERRY BRANDY, PINTS, 5s.

Guinness and Co's Dublin Extra Stout, 5s. 9s. & 10s. per Dozen, and in Kilderkins, 27s.

India Ale, 5s. and 10s. per Dozen.

BASS AND CO.'S EAST INDIA PALE ALE, IN PINT AND QUART BOTTLES.

☞ Casks, Hampers, Jars, and Bottles, to be paid for if not returned.

Cash Prices.

JOHN COLE,

CHEMIST, DRUGGIST,

AND

TEA DEALER,

31, PIER STREET, AND TERRACE ROAD,

ABERYSTWITH.

Fine Black Teas	Potted Meat
Gunpowder and Hyson Tea	——— Bloaters
Loaf Sugar	——— Shrimps
Moist ditto	Fish Sauces and Pickles of every description
Turkey and Jamaica Coffee	French Mustard
Cocoa Paste	Durham ditto
Chocolate Paste and Powder	Lundy Foot Snuff
Spices	Welsh ditto
Dandelion Coffee	Fribourg and Treyer's Snuffs
Raspberry Jam	Snuff Boxes
Strawberry ditto	Fancy Smelling Bottles, in great varieties
Red Currant Jelly	Perfumery
Black ditto	Patent Medicine
Scotch Marmalade	Worcestershire Sauce, Lea and Perrins
Preserved Ginger	Macaroni and Vermicelli
Dessert Raisins	Stella Oil
Jordan Almonds	Mandarin Sauce
Preserved Orange Chips	Soyer's Sauce
Plums and Currants	
Indian Mangoes	
Anchovies	

WILTSHIRE CHEESES.—HAVANNAH CIGARS.

Lemonade and Soda Water.

PRICE'S BELMONT, WAX, AND SPERM CANDLES.

Field's Genuine Wax & Sperm ditto.

WAX & COMPOSITION NIGHT LIGHTS.

Carr's & Co's Fancy Biscuits.

PROPRIETOR of the HOOKEY WALKER SAUCE.

Sugar Candy, Barley Sugar, Acidulated Drops,

RASPBERRY ORANGE.—GINGER AND RAISIN WINES.

Hair, Nail, and Tooth Brushes.

WESTLEY RICHARDS' GUN WADDING AND CAPS.

GUN POWDER AND SHOT.

BELLE VUE ROYAL HOTEL,

ABERYSTWITH.

CHARLES MARSHALL,

In returning his most sincere thanks to the Nobility, Gentry, Commercial Gentlemen, and the Public in general, for the kind favours so liberally bestowed on him since his residence in the principality, begs most respectfully to assure them that no endeavour shall be wanting on his part to render the claims of the above Establishment equal to those of any in the kingdom.

THE HOTEL

Is most beautifully situated on the Marine Terrace, facing the Sea.

Families supplied with

WINES OF THE MOST APPROVED VINTAGES,

AND

Spirits of the choicest quality.

THE POSTING DEPARTMENT

attended to in the most careful manner, with good Horses and steady Drivers.

LIVERY STABLES & LOCK-UP COACH HOUSES.

The Royal Mails

And other Coaches to all parts of the kingdom.

GOGERDDAN ARMS ROYAL HOTEL,

ABERYSTWITH.

A. P. DAVIES

OFFERS his warmest thanks to the Nobility, Gentry, Commercial Gentlemen, and the Public, for the kind and liberal support with which they have hitherto honoured him, and he now begs to inform them that he has recently ENLARGED his house very considerably, and trusts his increased and much-improved means of accommodation will merit a continuance of their favours, which it will always be his anxious study to deserve.

Families supplied with

CHOICE WINES AND SPIRITS

from his own Cellars, which he purchases in bond, and selects personally.

Flys, Cars, Phaetons, &c. ready at the shortest notice,

AND POSTING IN GENERAL IN THE BEST MANNER.

EXTENSIVE STABLING & LOCK-UP COACH HOUSES.

Coaches to Gloucester, Shrewsbury, Liverpool, Birmingham, and through North Wales.

E. & D. ROBERTS,

Saddlers and Harness Makers,

GREAT DARK GATE STREET,

ABERYSTWITH.

JACOB LEON,

WORKING JEWELLER, LAPIDIST, & SILVERSMITH,

Nos. 5 & 10,

PIER STREET, ABERYSTWITH.

J. LEON takes the present opportunity of returning his best thanks to the Nobility and Gentry of the town and neighbourhood, and also to the Visitors, for their esteemed patronage during upwards of 20 years; and begs to inform them that he has removed from No. 23, to more capacious premises, No. 5, Pier Street. J. L. has recently purchased a varied and extensive assortment of Goods, consisting of

GOLD AND SILVER CYLINDER WATCHES,

Skeleton and Or-molu Clocks,

SILVER PLATE OF EVERY DESCRIPTION,

And every Novelty of the Season in English and Continental

Jewellery & Fancy Goods,

Which he is determined to dispose of at the smallest remunerating profit.

SKELETON, REPEATER, AND GENEVA WATCHES, CAREFULLY REPAIRED.

☞ *Experienced hands in the Working Jewellery and Lapidary Departments employed on the premises.*

ABERYSTWITH PEBBLES CUT & MOUNTED.

GUNS FOR HIRE. **HAVANNAH CIGARS.** SEALS, ETC. ENGRAVED.

DAVID LEWIS,

Auctioneer,

APPRAISER, GENERAL ACCOUNTANT,

AND

HOUSE AGENT,

ABERYSTWITH.

DAVID LLOYD,

Woollen & Linen Draper,

SILK MERCER,

HABERDASHER, HOSIER, GLOVER,

Laceman, &c. &c.

Nos. 36, & 37, GREAT DARK GATE STREET,

ABERYSTWITH.

Umbrellas, Parasols.—London and Paris Hats, Caps.

Welsh Flannels and Shawls

THE NEWEST DESIGNS IN FANCY DOESKINS, KERSEYMERES, SILK VESTS, &c.

And the most prevailing Colours in plain Woollen Cloths, always in Stock.

FAMILY MOURNING.

The above premises having been considerably enlarged, and the Stock increased, affords unusual advantages to the public.

SUSAN JONES,

WHITE HORSE INN,

TERRACE ROAD,

ABERYSTWITH.

WINES & SPIRITS OF THE BEST QUALITY.

Guinness's Draught and Bottled Porter.

Excellent home-brewed and East India Pale Ale.

SCHWEPPE'S ÆRATED WATERS.

LIGHT TABLE DRINK CONSTANTLY ON SALE.

BOARD AND LODGING.—WELL AIRED BEDS.

LONDON & CAMBRIAN HOUSE,

2, PIER STREET,

ABERYSTWITH.

RICHARD LEWIS,

(From Redmayne's, Bond Street, London,)

SILK MERCER,

LINEN & WOOLLEN DRAPER,

Haberdasher,

HOSIER, GLOVER, &c.

French Silks, Cambrics, Handkerchiefs, & Fancy Goods.

BEST LONDON HATS.

FUNERALS COMPLETELY FURNISHED.

ELIZABETH WILLIAMS,

GROCER & TEA DEALER,

CHEESEMONGER,

&c. &c. &c.

PIER STREET, ABERYSTWITH.

Fine Teas	Tapioca	Composite Candles
Mocha Coffee	Arrowrot	Mould and Dip ditto
Jamaica ditto	Sago	Windsor Soap
Loaf and Moist Sugar	Pickles	Vinegar
Carolina Rice	Spices	Mustard

FISH SAUCES OF ALL KINDS.

WILLIAM EVANS,

(Successor to Mr. James Jenkins)

LADIES' AND GENTLEMEN'S FASHIONABLE

BOOT AND SHOE MAKER,

No. 4, PIER STREET,

ABERYSTWYTH,

Begs to return his sincere thanks to the Nobility, Gentry, Clergy, Visitors, and Public of Aberystwith, and of this and the adjoining Counties, for their liberal support; and hopes, by strict attention to business, and punctuality in the execution of all Orders, to merit a continuance of the same.

Boots and Shoes of every description constantly on hand.

FRENCH AND HOME-MADE CLOGS.

Gutta Percha Soles

FURNISHING

Ironmongery and General Grocery

ESTABLISHMENT.

R. JONES,

IRONMONGER & GROCER,

5, GREAT DARK GATE STREET,

(FOUR DOORS BELOW THE BLACK LION HOTEL,)

ABERYSTWITH.

Nails, Iron, Steel, Hoops, Sheets, Spades, Shovels, &c.

CUTLERY.—BRUSHES.—COFFIN FURNITURE.

FINE FLAVOURED TEAS—MOCHA AND PLANTATION COFFEES.

Fruits, Spices, Pickles, &c.

WAX AND SPERMACETI CANDLES.

W. J. HACKLETON,

WORKING LAPIDARY AND JEWELLER,

CASTLE STREET,

NEAR THE CASTLE HOUSE,

ABERYSTWITH.

All kinds of Fancy Cabinets, Work Boxes, and Tables, made and inlaid with Stone, in a new and superior style.

OBSERVE—First turning to the right at the bottom of Pier Street leading from the Terrace to the Church.

Portland Marino Baths,

CORNER OF

PORTLAND STREET & TERRACE ROAD,

ABERYSTWITH.

ESTABLISHED 15 YEARS.

Warm, Vapour, or Shower Baths, always ready in rooms combining comfort with economy.

JOHN ELLIS,

In returning thanks for the patronage he has enjoyed, begs leave respectfully to inform Visitors and the Public, that all the Water used in his Establishment has been previously freed from Sea-weed and all impurities by filtering, and being heated by a Steam apparatus contrived by himself, the rust arising from the use of iron vessels is avoided.

J. ELLIS has also good Bathing Machines on the Beach for Ladies and Gentlemen, *(coloured blue)*, with careful Attendants, good Dresses, and Caps also found for Ladies.

Scale of Charges:—	*s.*	*d.*
Warm Bath (Marble)	1	6
Ditto (Slate or Wood)	1	0
Shower Bath (9 feet high)	0	10

☞ NO CONNEXION WITH ANY OTHER BATH KEEPER.

A good Bath Chair, and a steady Man to draw.

RICHARD JONES,

SMITH & FARRIER,

PORTLAND MEWS,

ABERYSTWITH.

All orders strictly attended to upon the shortest notice.

☞ *Residence—No. 54, Marine Terrace.*

J. W. ROWLANDS,

BUTCHER,

No. 35, PIER STREET, ABERYSTWITH,

RETURNS thanks to his Friends and the Public, Inhabitants of the Town and Neighbourhood, for the liberal support which he and his Father have received for upwards of thirty-five years, and respectfully solicits a continuance of the same. He further begs to state that, being in the constant habit of serving the principal Families in this locality, Visitors and others may rely on his supplying them with Meat of the finest quality, at the most reasonable prices.

E. JONES,

(LATE FOREMAN TO MR. T. H. JONES)

ABERYSTWITH,

BEGS leave to inform his friends and the public generally that he has lately commenced for himself in the

PAINTING, PLUMBING, GLAZING, PAPER HANGING,

GILDING, GRAINING, & MARBLING LINES,

and respectfully solicits their patronage and support; he the same time assures them that all orders entrusted to him shall be executed in the first style of workmanship, and upon the most moderate terms.

☞ *Workshop—Behind the Talbot Hotel.*

POST OFFICE.

COX'S

PIANOFORTE REPOSITORY,

LIBRARY,

30, PIER STREET, ABERYSTWITH.

In addition to having a choice of Instruments FOR HIRE, J. Cox respectfully informs the Public that he continues as heretofore to supply

BROADWOOD'S, COLLARD'S, & KIRKMAN'S

Pianofortes,

At the Makers' prices, delivered carriage free, and warranted.

INFERIOR MAKERS AT LOWER PRICES.

J. Cox has always in Stock a large assortment of

PAPER HANGINGS,

selected from the first London and Provincial Manufacturers, which he can confidently recommend for the superior quality and cheapness.

Likewise a variety of those invaluable articles of domestic use, so highly recommended by the Faculty for their beneficial influence on the health and personal comfort,

ROBINS'S ROYAL FILTERS,

which render water free from all impurities,—in sizes varying from 2 to 6 Gallons, and capable of filtering from 12 to 40 Gallons per diem.

JOHN JONES,

MERCER & DRAPER,

No. 22, GREAT DARK GATE STREET,

ABERYSTWITH.

A large assortment of Welsh Flannels and Whittles always in Stock.

British Emporium,
No. 38, GREAT DARK GATE STREET,
ABERYSTWITH.

J. MATTHEWS,
LINEN AND WOOLLEN DRAPER,
SILK MERCER,
LACEMAN, HOSIER, GLOVER,
HABERDASHER & WAREHOUSEMAN.

Importer of Irish Linens.—The Original Depôt for Welsh Flannels.

☞ FUNERALS FURNISHED.

E. PYKE,
Ladies' Hair Cutter and Dresser,
ALSO, MANUFACTURER OF
HAIR CHAINS, RINGS, BROOCHES, EAR-RINGS, BRACELETS, &c,

Perfumery, Combs, Brushes, &c. of every description.

FANCY TOY WAREHOUSE.

No. 15, PIER STREET,
Aberystwith.
A WEIGHING CHAIR.

JOHN LUMLEY,
General Furniture Manufacturer,
AND
HOUSE BUILDER,
No. 12, NORTH PARADE,
ABERYSTWITH.

3, PIER STREET, ABERYSTWITH.

STAMP OFFICE.

RICHARD WATKINS,

Linen & Woollen Draper,

HABERDASHER,

HOSIER, GLOVER, &c. &c.

FUNERALS COMPLETELY FURNISHED.

MISSES COX,

Milliners and Dress Makers,

8, LAURA PLACE, ABERYSTWITH.

An assortment of London and Paris Millinery.

Agents for Drieu's Patent French Corsets.
Queen's Pattern ditto ditto.

BROADWOOD'S PIANOFORTES.

JAMES & EVANS,

Tailors & Habit Makers,

(The former late Foreman to Mr. Walker, Sackville Street, London.)

12, PIER STREET,

ABERYSTWITH.

The newest Fashions received regularly from London.

An assortment of Stripes and Plaids of Welsh Manufacture.

J. JONES & SON,

IMPORTERS AND DEALERS IN

FOREIGN WINES AND SPIRITS,

CORN MARKET STREET,

ABERYSTWITH.

Messrs. JONES and SON are likewise Manufacturers of Gold and Silver

Cylinder, Patent Lever, and Repeater Watches,

With a large Assortment constantly in Stock.

Jewellery, Gold Wedding Rings, &c.

THOMAS DAVIES,

LINEN & WOOLLEN DRAPER,

SILK MERCER, HABERDASHER,

Hosier, Glover, and Laceman,

1, UPPER END OF PIER STREET,

ABERYSTWITH.

Welsh Flannels, Whittles, &c.

FRENCH AND ENGLISH RIBBONS, &c.

FUNERALS COMPLETELY FURNISHED.

BRIDGE STREET, ABERYSTWITH.

SARAH DAVIS,

Brazier, Tin Plate Worker,

AND

GENERAL FURNISHING IRONMONGER.

A neat assortment of Register & Half Register Stove Grates, Kitchen Ranges, Fenders, &c.

Zinc, Copper, Tin, and Iron Shoots, with descending Pipes.

Dealer in Cutlery, Japan Goods, Oils, Paints, Brushes, &c. &c.

G. CARESWELL,

CIRCULATING LIBRARY,

Assembly, Reading, & Billiard Rooms

LAURA PLACE,

ABERYSTWITH.

Visitors are respectfully informed that the above Rooms are open every day, and are supplied with the

LONDON AND PROVINCIAL PAPERS,

MAGAZINES, REVIEWS, &c.

Terms of subscription, for any period, known on application.

PEDAL HARPS AND PIANO FORTES FOR HIRE.

Monsieur Louis de Jarnacque,

PROFESSOR OF THE

FRENCH, GERMAN, AND ITALIAN

LANGUAGES.

Terms may be had at Mr. Cox's Library, Pier Street, Aberystwith.

ABERYSTWITH.

BOARDING SCHOOL,

4, Marine Terrace.

MRS. RICHARD JONES

Begs to inform the Public that she has resumed the duties of her School; and at the same time returns her thanks for the liberal support she has received.

MASTERS IN DAILY ATTENDANCE.

Terms for the usual routine of English Education, 20 *Guineas per Annum.*

FRENCH, MUSIC, DANCING, AND DRAWING, EXTRAS.

References to Parents of Pupils.

CANTON HOUSE.

FAMILY TEA, COFFEE,
AND
GENERAL GROCERY
ESTABLISHMENTS,
PORTLAND STREET, TERRACE ROAD,
AND
No. 4, CHURCH STREET,
ABERYSTWITH.

Fine Full Flavoured Teas
Chocolates, Cocoas, and Spices, of the choicest qualities

Wax, Sperm, Belmont, and Composite Candles
Sauces and Pickles in great variety

MOCHA AND PLANTATION
COFFEES ROASTED ON THE PREMISES.

LEWIS JONES,
Proprietor.

EGYPTIAN HOUSE,
TERRACE ROAD, ABERYSTWITH.

HENRY WHITE,
Lapidary and Working Jeweller.

H. WHITE begs leave to return his sincere thanks to his numerous friends and visitors at Aberystwith, for their kind support during the last 20 years; and hopes, by strict attention to all orders entrusted to his care, to merit a continuance of their favors.

Pebbles of all kinds Cut & Mounted on reasonable terms.

N. B. Ladies' Bathing Machines on the Beach, by Elizabeth White, (colour, green,) with experienced Guides to attend.

Old Gold and Silver taken in exchange.

WILLIAM EVANS,

FAMILY

Tea, Coffee, and General Grocery

WAREHOUSE,

42, GREAT DARK GATE STREET, PIER STREET,

(Opposite the Gogerddan Arms and Lion Hotel,)

ABERYSTWITH.

Family Orders executed with punctuality and dispatch.

JOHN EVANS,

CONFECTIONER,

PIER STREET,

ABERYSTWITH.

Plain Fruit Cakes, for Schools and Families, and Funeral Biscuits, at the shortest Notice.

JAMS AND JELLIES.

SUPERIOR BRITISH WINES.

RICHARD WILLIAMS,

Paper Hanger,

PLUMBER, GLAZIER, SIGN, HOUSE & FURNITURE

PAINTER,

LITTLE DARK GATE STREET,

ABERYSTWITH.

Graining, Gilding, Moulding, &c. &c.

Neatly executed, and on the most reasonable terms.

J. COX,

PRINTER, BOOKSELLER, STATIONER, AND MUSIC SELLER,

Respectfully announces that he has at all times on Sale,

AT HIS CIRCULATING LIBRARY,

30, PIER STREET,

An ample supply of the undermentioned Articles, viz.

Books in every department of Literature, by the most esteemed authors, many of them at reduced prices,

And a great variety in handsome Bindings, suitable for presents,

Bibles and Prayer Books, in plain and elegant Morocco bindings, with clasps
Ditto, illuminated, in Vellum and rich Velvet bindings
The Church Service ditto
Preparations and Companions to the Lord's Supper, in neat bindings
Pietas, Horæ Religiosæ, and other devotional Books
School Books of all sorts
Maps, Guides, &c. &c.

Gilt and plain-edged Letter and Note Papers
Fancy ditto
Black-edged and Bordered ditto
Foolscaps and Draft ditto
Blotting Paper, pink and white
Drawing Paper, of all sizes
Cartridge Paper
Brown Packing ditto
Cap or Kitchen ditto
French Curling Paper
Coloured Papers
Ditto Glazed
Dahlia Papers, coloured both sides
Morocco and Fancy Papers
White and Coloured Tissue Paper
Tracing Paper

Ledgers and Day Books, of all sizes
Cash Books
Memorandum ditto
Metallic Paper ditto
Post 4to. and 8vo. MS. Books, ruled and plain
Foolscap ditto
Copy Books, a great variety
Copy Slips
Black lines
Best Sealing Wax, red and black
Fancy coloured ditto
Wafers, loose and in boxes
Initial Outside Wafers
Gold and Silver Fancy and Motto ditto
Superior Pens and Quills
Italian Pens, in boxes
Portable Pens
Gillott's best Steel Pens
Others ditto, various
Penholders, various
Walkden's Ink and Ink Powder
Stephens' Blue Fluid
Arnold's Japan Ink
Red Ink
Office Inkstands, Pewter
Ebony Inkstands
Square Cut Glass ditto
Various other ditto
Slates and Slate Pencils
Envelopes, of all sizes and qualities
Ditto, black bordered
Ditto, in boxes
Handsome Morocco Envelope Cases
——————— Blotters
Portfolios

List of Articles for Sale continued.

Albums, plain and elegant
Scrap Books
Engravings
Coloured Prints for Albums
Paper Knives
Portable Writing Desks
Ne Plus Ultras
Blotting Pads
Parchment
Plain and Enamelled Address Cards
Black Bordered Address Cards
Mogul Playing Cards
Card Cases
Music Paper and Music Books
Drawing Books and Sketch Books
Solid Sketch Books
Turnbull's Drawing Boards
Embossed ditto
Whatman's Drawing Paper
Colour Boxes, of all sizes
Colours, in single Cakes
Indian Ink
India Rubber
Crayons
Camel-hair Pencils
Gold and Silver Shells
Drawing Pencils, and all Drawing Materials

Cloth and Hair Brushes
Nail and Tooth Brushes
Tortoishell Combs
Dressing
Pocket
Braid and Band
Ivory Combs

Eau de Cologne
Delcroix's Esprit de Lavande
Rowlands' Kalydor
Bear's Grease
Cold Cream
Fancy Soaps
Windsor Soap
Old Brown ditto
Court Plaister
Gold Beater's Skin
Mechi's Razor Strops
——————Paste
Marking Ink

Knives and Scissors
Penknives
Razors
Spirit Flasks
Walking Sticks, in great variety
Portable Chairs
Fencing Foils and Masks

Best London-made Trout and Salmon Rods
Artificial Flies and Minnows
Fly Books, various
Gut footlines
Fish Hooks
Silkworm Gut
London-made Winches
Fish Panniers
Patent Spun Silk and Hair lines

Piano Fortes, from Broadwood's, Square and Cabinet
Violins and Violoncellos
Clarionets
Cornopeans
Flutes and Fifes
Violin and Guitar Strings
Bridges, Pegs, Reeds, &c.

BOOKS NEATLY BOUND.

MAGAZINES, REVIEWS, AND OTHER WORKS PROCURED TO ORDER.

NEWSPAPERS SUPPLIED.

A CHOICE SELECTION OF NEW MUSIC.

LITHOGRAPHIC PRINTS OF ABERYSTWYTH, DEVIL'S BRIDGE, HAFOD, &c. &c.

VIGNETTE VIEWS OF THE SAME, ON LETTER PAPER.

PAPER HANGINGS OF SUPERIOR QUALITY.—COMMON DITTO.

BROADWOOD'S PIANO FORTES FOR SALE OR HIRE.

Printed by J. Cox, Pier Street, Aberystwith.